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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

BOE holds off suit vs govt

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI State Board of Education has voted to put off a planned lawsuit against the CNMI government on how much the Public School System is entitled to as its share of the government's annual budget.

In a 4-1 vote during last Wednesday's meeting at the BOE conference room on Capital Hill, the board decided to hold off on bringing to court the issue of what general revenue is and what constitutes the 25 percent of the budget that PSS is entitled to get under the CNMI Constitution.

Board chair MaryLou S. Ada, vice chair Janice A. Tenorio, secretary/treasurer Herman M. Atalig, and member Herman T. Guerrero voted yes, while Tinian representative Florine M. Hofschneider voted no.

Before the vote, BOE legal counsel Tiberius Mocanu outlined two options for the board: submitting a certified question to the court or fil-

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The CNMI State Board of Education meets last Wednesday at the BOE conference room on Capital Hill. JON PEREZ

New phenomenon in CNMI political history

» 39 are running as independent candidates

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

For the first time in CNMI political history, a staggering number of candidates—39 so far, including former governor Juan N. Babauta and former Public School System commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan—are running as independent candidates in this Nov. 6 election.

The number, however, may still increase as there is still enough time to file candidacies. July 9 is the first day to submit nominations and candidacies. The deadline of submission is Aug. 8.

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Small businesses also hurting

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Even small businesses that employ 20 or fewer workers are feeling the impact of the current issue on the lottery system implemented by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker or CW-1 program.

JON PEREZ
Ming Li store is set to close shop after more than two decades of doing business on Saipan. All their items are on sale, including their equipment.

Last April, USCIS used a computer-generated random selection system to select CW1 petitions to meet the 4,999 numerical cap for fiscal year 2019. The lottery system was for all petitions received from April 2 to 13.

All petitions that were not selected in the lottery, including applications for all nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center, were returned.

That's why Saipan Chamber of

See SMALL on Page 4

NWS: Expect more cyclone activity

The CNMI should expect to see more tropical cyclone activity in the remaining months of this year than in 2016 and 2017, but not quite as much activity as in 2015, according to the National Weather Service and Pacific ENSO Applications Climate Center.

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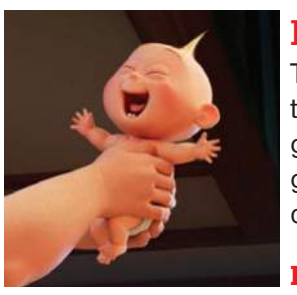

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Local

‘Expect more cyclone activity than last 2 years’

The CNMI should expect to see more tropical cyclone activity than in 2016 and 2017, but not quite as much activity as in 2015 when typhoons Dolphin and Soudelor ravaged the islands, according to a coordinated assessment by the National Weather Service and Pacific ENSO Applications Climate Center.

The assessment for the rest of 2018 is based on independent Pacific-wide typhoon predictions, an internal forecast scheme designed by forecaster Paul Stanko for Micronesia activity, the current and predicted states of the El Nino-Southern Oscillation climate pattern, and the historical tropical cyclone activity associated with past ENSO states.

It is prepared for the CNMI government and citizens, and it is an update on the forecasts provided in April. These predictions could change over the next few months.

In detail, the weather assessment predicted the following:

■ The Northern Islands could get a tropical storm or weak typhoon in late July or early August into September.

■ Saipan and Tinian could see a nearby tropical storm in July and could be impacted by a typhoon in October, November, or December.

■ Rota could see a nearby tropical storm or typhoon in July, but could be impacted by a typhoon in late October, November, December, and/or early January.

■ For the remainder of the year, there is a 50 percent chance of getting a strong tropical storm (sustained winds of 50-73 mph) and a 25 percent chance of getting a Category 1 typhoon (sustained winds of 74-95 mph). The chance of a Category 2 typhoon (sustained winds of 96-110 mph) is about 15 percent, while the chance of a Category 3 typhoon (sustained winds of 111-129 mph) is around 10 percent. Chances of a Category 4 typhoon (sustained winds of 130-155 mph) is around 3 percent, and finally, the chances of a Category 5 (sustained winds of 156-195 mph) is less than 1 percent. These percentages will likely need to be fine-tuned as the season evolves. Tropical cyclone activity for the CNMI could begin a little late, toward mid-summer, but keep in mind that the weather patterns can change quite rapidly. Remember, we are in the only basin that can get a typhoon any month of year.

■ A move toward El Niño will continue to decrease the sea level heights, exposing the reefs to more direct sun during low tides and increasing chances for coral bleaching.

■ Above normal rainfall should continue through the end of the year.

» **NWS: Less than 1 percent probability of Category 5**

The National Weather Service and PEACC, however, reminded the public that these predictions can change as the year progresses.

NWS and PEACC said for Micronesia, there is a relatively predictable relationship between tropical cyclone activity and the state of El Nino-Southern Oscillation or ENSO. In the tropics, tropical cyclones generally move from southeast to northwest. Thus, if a tropical storm or typhoon develops southeast of the CNMI islands, it will often track toward the islands. If a tropical storm or typhoon develops west or north of the islands, it will usually move away from the islands. When an El Niño occurs, tropical storms and typhoons begin to develop earlier in the year and farther to the east toward eastern Micronesia. They tend to move toward the west, west-northwest or northwest, often toward the CNMI. When a La Nina event occurs, the storms tend to develop later in the year and west of or near the Mariana Islands. In this case, they usually move west before significantly intensifying. During El Niño events, the chance of Rota, Tinian, or Saipan getting direct hit triples when compared to the chance during non-El Niño periods. During an ENSO-neutral state, which is the transition state between El Niño and La Niña, the chance of getting a direct hit by a tropical storm or typhoon is much better than during La Niña, but not as good as during El Niño. In general, the odds of Rota, Tinian or Saipan getting a typhoon is about 1 in 5 or 6 or about once every 5 or 6 years. In El Niño years, the odds are 1 in 3 or about once every 3 years, while in La Nina the odds drop to 1 in 10 or about once every 10 years.

NWS and PEACC said Micronesia is now in an ENSO-neutral status, having recently transitioned from a La Niña climate state.

What do we expect for the future? Most climate forecast models suggest that we will remain in an ENSO-neutral state until late summer or early fall and then transition to an El Niño. In this scenario, we don’t get many early season tropical cyclones. A late summer or early fall El Niño will either be a weak or moderate one or the precursor to a stronger one in 2019. It is too early to say which will occur with any confidence. The Climate Prediction Center just issued an El Niño Watch on June 14. ***(PR)***

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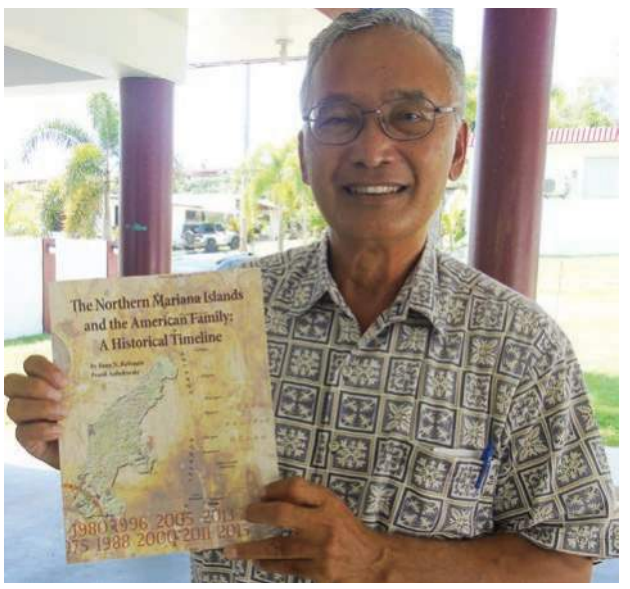
Ex-PSS chief's motion for reconsideration is denied



SECOND BOOK

Former governor Juan N. Babauta holds up the book *The Northern Mariana Islands and the American Family: A Historical Timeline* that he co-authored with Frank Sobolewski. The book, Babauta's second, focuses on governmental processes as well as outcomes and the relationship between the U.S. government and the CNMI. According to Babauta, the book extensively quotes the government and other documents.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

In a two-page order, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said she has reviewed former Board of Education commissioner Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero's arguments and finds that she has raised no new arguments.

Manglona said Deleon Guerrero may disagree with the court's understanding of the statutes and case law, but she has not persuaded the court that it erred in dismissing her claims.

The judge did not hold a hearing on the motion. She decided the motion as it has been fully briefed on the papers that the parties had submitted.

Deleon Guerrero sued BOE and its members for allegedly terminating her last October as PSS commissioner in violation of due process. She accused board members of conspiring to violate her due process rights, wrongfully terminating her, and breaching her employment contract. She is demanding $350,000 in damages.

Manglona remanded the state law claims, leaving only two claims in the lawsuit.

Last May 30, Manglona dismissed with prejudice Deleon Guerrero's two remaining two claims: violation of her due process rights and conspiracy to violate her due process rights.

That means Deleon Guerrero can no longer re-file the claims.

Deleon Guerrero asked the court to reconsider, asserting through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas that errors of law in her case will make her suffer injustice.

Nicholas said Deleon Guerrero is entitled to a hearing to defend herself against a stigma publicly bestowed on her by the BOE members.

In the BOE members' opposition to the motion for reconsideration, they asserted that they are puzzled by Deleon Guerrero's argument.

BOE and its members, through special assistant attorney general Tiberius D. Mocanu, said Deleon Guerrero argues that she should be entitled to a pre-termination hearing because BOE chair MaryLou S. Ada stated that she did not get along with her.

Mocanu said Deleon Guerrero in her motion for consideration states that she contests the accuracy of that statement.

Mocanu asked how is that even possible.

RELATED NEWS

- Ex-PSS chief insists she's entitled to a hearing. **PAGE 18**

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Junior Ranger Camp starts next week

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The American Memorial Park is calling all junior high school students to participate in its upcoming Junior Ranger Camp.

The American Memorial Park is gearing up to educate CNMI Middle School students on the importance of the American Memorial Park and what it takes to maintain its beauty through numerous outdoor activities.

The first session of the Junior Ranger Camp will start on Tuesday, June 26, and will go on until Thursday, June 28. Transportation will not be provided.

The second session of the Junior Ranger Camp will be on July 10, Tuesday, to Thursday, July 12. Transportation will be provided to and from the AMP. The pickup and drop-off point will be at San Antonio Youth Center.

The third session will be on Tuesday, July 17, to Thursday, July 19. Transportation will be provided to and from the AMP and the pickup and drop-off point will be at the Tanapag Youth Center.

The fourth and final session will be on Tuesday, July 24, to Thursday, July 26. Transportation will be provided to and from the AMP and the pickup and drop-off point will be at the Cha Cha Junior High School.

Students are encouraged to register as soon as possible because there are limited spaces available.

Interested participants may contact ranger Brooke Nevitt at brooke_nevitt@nps.gov or contact AMP education specialist Jovannalyn Mafnas at 234-7207 ext. 2020.

TALD OKs measure funding scholarships

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A delegation passed legislation last Wednesday that funds both undergraduate degrees and master degrees scholarship offered by the Tinian Municipal Council for the fall 2019 semester.

The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, led by Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), passed legislation that appropriates $79,000 from the local license fees collected from pachinko slot machines and poker machines on Tinian to several programs on the island, including scholarships and equipment purchases for Tinian government agencies.

Under the bill, $50,000 is appropriated to fund the fall 2019 semester of the Tinian Municipal Scholarship; $10,000 to fund the fall 2019 semester of the Master's Program; $10,000 for the purchase of firearms and its accessories along with training of personnel for the Tinian Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife; and $9,000 for the purchase of a zero-turn mower for the Tinian Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Hofschneider

The bill, Rep. Edwin Aldan's (R-Tinian) House Local Bill 20-67, was supported unanimously by the delegation. The bill now heads to acting governor Arnold I. Palacios for review since Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is on an off-island trip to Boise, Idaho.

The initial intent of the bill was only to purchase firearms for the Tinian Fish and Wildlife; however, Aldan proposed an amendment during the session to include funding for other programs.

H.L.B. 20-67 passed on a unanimous vote. Sens. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian) and Francisco Borja (R-Tinian) were the remaining members of the delegation.

BOE

From Page 1

ing a lawsuit. In both cases, it is to ask the court to clarify the provisions of the law that will guide future administrations in appropriating the annual budget for PSS.

"The idea is to have a decision from the Supreme Court that resolves the issue so that future governors and political parties in power don't have any wiggle room on what exactly this constitutional amendment mean and what PSS is allowed to have," said Mocanu. "The goal is not to sue the government because we're going to get some money. The goal is to sue the government to force them to a certified question, so the Supreme Court can decide what's exactly is going on."

He added: "What we're trying to do is not forcing anybody's hand or we're not asking for a specific amount of money. What we're doing is to get them at the table so that we're in front of the Supreme Court and they decide."

The board has also decided to give House Speaker Ralph S. Demapan (R-Saipan) time to discuss the issue whether the Legislature would have a joint resolution to resolve the matter and at the same time meet with their legal counsel.

Mocanu, however, reminded the board that litigation is a tedious process. "We file, we serve, they reply. We're in front of a judge, they might file a motion to dismiss. We have to argue the motion. If we survive it—I think we would—let's go to the Supreme Court, it will take three to four months before we might get a sentence."

Comments

Hofschneider, who voted no, said the board has already decided and should file the certified question right away. "We should proceed to do that. The governor can't dictate to the board when to take action. We need to do this."

"It is a political ploy, no matter how you slice it. We've been at this so we could avoid it close to the election," added Hofschneider.

Ada said that during her last conversation with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, he said the government would honor what it owes PSS. "My last discussion with the governor, they are willing to give us $3.75 million in July on the next supplemental appropriation."

She added that the BOE just needs answers on the questions of what is general revenue and what's the proper earmark for the educational system in the annual budget.

Tenorio said the administration should not be blamed but Torres and the Legislature know that PSS has every right to the money. "But we should also be reminded that the entire CNMI is going through a roller coaster with regards with the economic development and CW1 workforce issues."

"Hotels and companies are not certain of what's going to happen, whether they would go on or not. I don't think they would let us be in the red. The governor and the Legislature are not saying that 'we're not going to give you the money,'" said Tenorio.

Atalig said that holding off until July is in the best interest of the BOE and would also benefit PSS. "The governor is the father of our islands and he has to do all this balancing act. We need to give and take sometimes."

"The governor and Legislature know they owe us money. But it just needs some time."

Guerrero, for his part, said that Demapan is serious in settling the issue but it is also the board's responsibility to move ahead with their plans for the best interest of the students. "It is not a question of who is right or who is wrong, but the question of resolving the issue regarding appropriations."

"The Legislature is entertaining the fiscal year 2019 budget, but we're elected to protect the interest of our students. As such, it is our moral responsibility to move ahead…The fact is the administration has not kept up with what they owe us."

"It is just a question to resolve, once and for all, what we are entitled to under the Constitution. So we can have a clear guidance from the court," Guerrero said.

PHENOMENON

From Page 1

Like the U.S. mainland, CNMI politics has been traditionally dominated by Democrats and Republicans.

Yet this time around, the number of independent candidates is increasing. For Babauta, it's a new phenomenon in CNMI political history. "I have never seen such big interest and push for people running as independent candidates. This has never happened before," he said.

In fact, the former governor said, as far as the independent candidates' slots are concerned, every precinct is filled, and that in some precincts there are way over the allotted number of seats available.

"Is there some dissatisfaction going on within the community? Is it that they're suddenly interested in what's going on in government? I'm not really sure," he said.

What he is sure about is that many are interested in running for public office, which he welcomes. He said it also raises the question why they are not running under either the Republican Party or the Democratic Party.

"It is interesting to analyze why that is. My only satisfaction from it is that people are all of a sudden interested in their government. Are they not happy with what's happening? Or they just want to directly participate in the decision-making process?" Babauta said. "Those are the things that we will be asking ourselves as we move forward."

The former governor also noted another interesting phenomenon—a growing number of women who are running for office.

"It's really interesting to ask those female candidates why they are running because the number is staggering," he said.

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, (MP-Independent) is seeking his re-election.

Saipan Tribune learned from different sources that for Saipan Senate positions, the two independent candidates are Vinnie F. Sablan and Heinz Hofschneider. For Tinian, there are also two—Juanita M. Mendiola and Eric C. San Nicolas. For Rota, there are five—Teresita A. Santos, Jovita M. Taimanao, Joel S. Charfauros, Albert S. Taitano, and Edward C. Maratita Jr.

For House of Representatives Saipan, there are 17 independent candidates—Edwin K. Propst, Samantha Birmingham-Babauta, Lino S. Tenorio, Franklin R. Babauta, Joseph A. Flores, Christina Sablan, Isabel P. Matsunaga, Estanislao Torres, David C. Sablan, Mariano DLG. Fajardo, Vicente Camacho, Luis Tilipao, Edmund Villagomez, Sheila J. Babauta, Malcolm Omar, Cecilia Taitano, and Joseph M. Mendiola.

For Tinian, the lone independent House candidate is Frederic A. Dela Cruz. For Rota, there are two House bets—Thomas T. Atalig and Donald M. Manglona.

For the Saipan mayoral race, Ramon B. Camacho is running as an independent. For the Northern Islands, Vicente Santos is seeking election.

For the Tinian and Aguiguan mayoral race, Henry H. San Nicolas is running as an independent.

For the Rota mayoral race, there are four independent candidates—Steve K. Mesngon, Julie O. Manglona, Crispin M. Ayuyu, and Richard E. Taisacan.

SMALL

From Page 1

Commerce president Velma Palacios said the only hope now is for House Resolution 5956, introduced by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah) in the U.S. House of Representatives, to be enacted before the start of fiscal year 2019 on Oct. 1, 2018.

H.R. 5956, the CNMI Workforce Act, passed the House early this month and is awaiting action in the Senate.

Sen. Liza Murkowski (R-Alaska) has introduced a similar bill in the U.S. Senate but, since it has a revenue-generating clause, the House needs to do it.

All revenue-generating bills must come from the House. Part of the CW1 fee applications paid by employers or companies goes to the CNMI government for training and other local workforce enhancement.

Palacios cited the Ming Lee store in As Lito as one of the businesses that is affected with the CW1 lottery system. "Some of the small businesses like, for example Ming Lee, they are not [an SCC] member."

"They said they are closing down because they can't find local workers and I guess also because of the CW1 program. I've also heard that other businesses have been affected because they've gotten rejections for their CW1 visas," Palacios added.

Ming Lee has put all of their goods on sale as much half off their original price, including all of their equipment like freezers, as they are about to shut down their operations at the end of the month after more than two decades of doing business on the island.

She said that H.R. 5956 being enacted is the only hope. "[Businesses] are hoping that this legislation would pass. But then, people are still gambling whether it would happen or not. Some of their workers may decide to just leave."

"It affects everyone, not necessarily only the hotel because some of the small businesses that I've talked to, they've only received a few. Like, if they submitted 10, they've only gotten three or four renewals."

She added that skilled laborer positions—auto mechanics, air-condition and refrigeration technicians, and tower climbers—are among those that are also affected. "It has affected everyone."

Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) echoed Palacios' statement as he believes other businesses—big or small—would soon follow Ming Lee's path unless President Trump signs H.R. 5956 into law.

"It is very costly to the remaining operation absent of CW1 or qualified local or U.S. workers. Until such time that the CNMI is granted a CW1 extension plus increase in numbers, majority of the private businesses would need to downsize."

"Or [worse] is to shutdown. Private businesses are dependent on qualified workers to be sustainable and profitable," added Guerrero, who is the Commerce and Tourism committee chair in the CNMI House of Representatives.

Car said to have hit Horey in Guam

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

CNMI lawyer Joseph Horey sustained serious injuries but is now in stable condition after being reportedly hit by a car as he was walking toward a mall on Ypao Road in Guam last Sunday night.

Lawyer Michael Dotts confirmed the news yesterday with *Saipan Tribune*.

Guam news quoted Guam Fire Department spokesman Kevin Reilly as describing the victim only as an elderly man, who was taken to the Guam Memorial Hospital.

When medics responded to the scene, the victim was unresponsive and had serious injuries. Guam police reportedly responded to the scene at 6:37pm.

Guam police said the victim was in stable condition as of Monday morning.

Dotts believes the car was traveling at high speed, based on the damage to the vehicle and the injuries Horey sustained.

Dotts said that Horey was hit from behind.

The good news is that Horey is now in stable condition, he said.

"He did not break any bones but he is in bad shape, and the doctors do not know the full extent of his injuries yet. We are all praying he make a fast and full recovery," the lawyer said.

Dotts said lawyers Greg Koebel and David Banes are talking to the doctors and the family daily.

Dotts used to work for many years at a law firm on Saipan with Horey, Koebel, Banes, and Robert O'Connor.

Public library parking lot closed today

In order to accommodate the completion carnival for the 2018 Children's Summer Library program, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's parking lot will be closed today, June 22, 2018.

For the latest news and events, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Call the library at 670-235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays. ***(PR)***

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Weed scuffle: Are penalties considered revenue?

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

» JGO has yet to adopt bill for passage despite many amendments

A House of Representatives lawmaker clashed yesterday with the chamber's legal counsel on whether revenue generation includes penalties provided in the cannabis bill.

Led by Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee discussed several omissions in the bill, including what they believe were revenue-generating provisions pertaining to fees and taxation in Senate Bill 20-62.

The bill, offered by Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), legalizes the recreational and medicinal use of cannabis and creates the cannabis commission.

During yesterday's meeting, Rep. Blas "BJ" Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan) questioned why the penalties for driving under the influence of cannabis were not omitted from the bill while fees and taxations pertaining to cannabis consumables were.

House legal counsel John Cool replied that the penalties were more of a deterrence rather than a revenue-generating provision.

Cool added that the intent of the bill is to regulate and legalize the recreational and medicinal use of cannabis—not to generate revenue. He said if the latter were the case, then the penalties imposed in the bill could be considered revenue-generating.

However, Attao argued that monies obtained in any form is technically revenue, therefore encompassing penalties and fines under the constitutional functions of the House of Representatives. He reiterated that the CNMI Constitution only allows revenue-generating legislation to come from the House.

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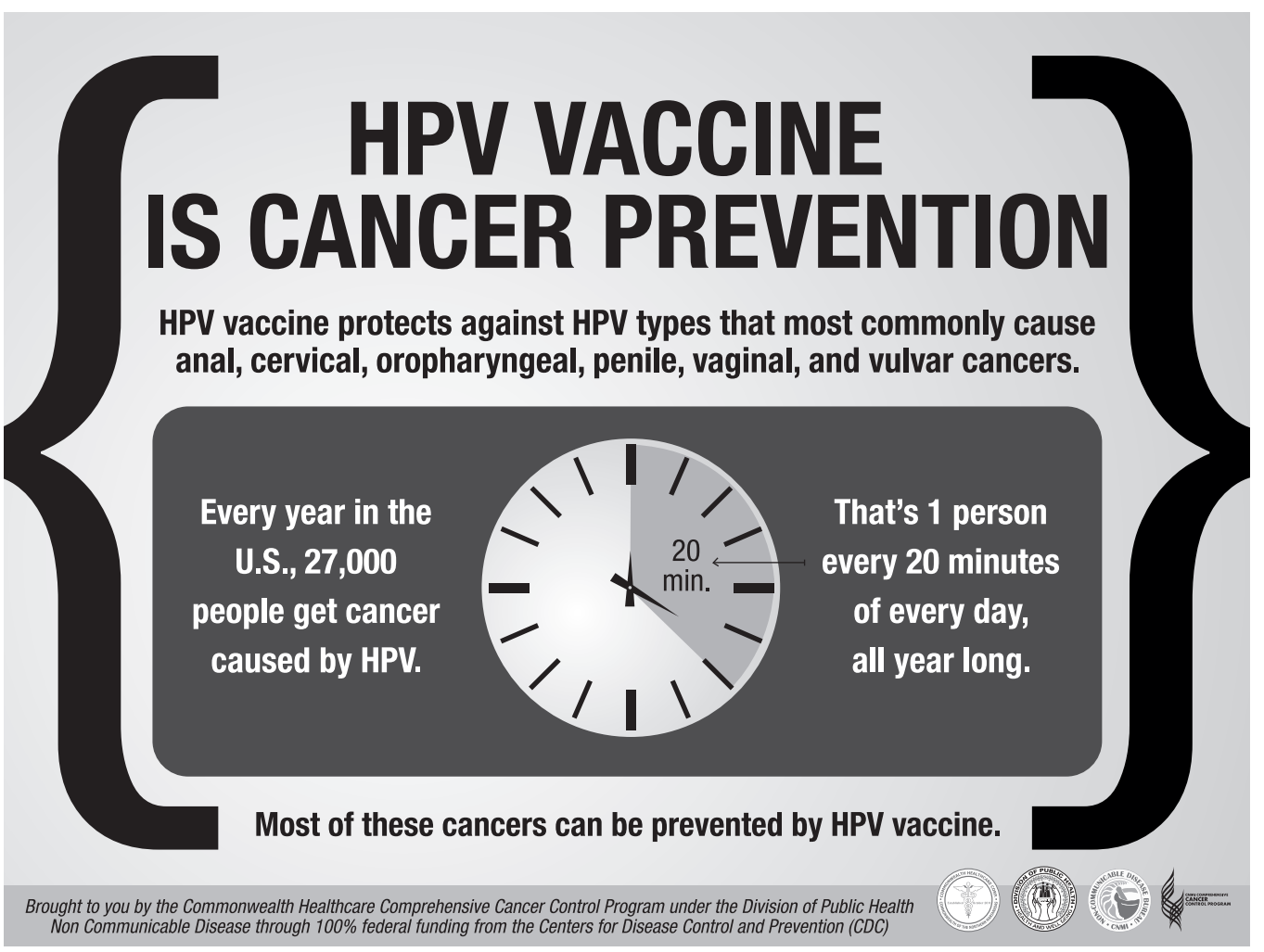
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'Precaution should be taken in legalization of marijuana'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribue.com
REPORTER

The Division of Youth Services—the agency that directly deals with the youth and families in the CNMI—encourages caution and further research when it comes to the legalization of cannabis use in the CNMI.

The CNMI Legislature is currently exploring the possibility of legalizing the medicinal and recreational use of cannabis or marijuana and is refining a bill, that would allow it. About three weeks ago, another public hearing was called to discuss Senate Bill 20-62 and the revisions made to the bill but DYS said it stands by the statement it submitted back in October 2017.

DYS primarily asks: Marijuana may have been been proven to alleviate pain in cancer patients and has served as the solution for a number of other illnesses, but what exactly would its adverse effects be on troubled adolescents and families in the CNMI community?

DYS administrator Vivian Sablan said her office works directly with troubled families and, with the current drug problem the CNMI faces, precautions should be taken in legalizing the recreational marijuana portion of S.B. 20-62 to ensure that more good than harm is done to the CNMI community.

According to DYS comments, the agency will provide support to regulate cannabis in the CNMI for medicinal purposes provided that the legalization will come with strict regulations.

"The intended benefits to the welfare of our CNMI residents will only come when there is 'control.' Although we don't want to be misconstrued for supporting drug use, we will support for therapeutic use strictly for those adults suffering from certain medical conditions," she said.

On the other hand, DYS stands by its opinion that there are areas of the bill that must be of critical concern, espe-

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Blanco then requested for Cool to submit his written opinion stating that penalties in bills are not considered revenue and may originate from the Senate. Cool agreed, and would be submitting it at the next JGO meeting, which would be on July 2, 2018, 9:30am.

Compromising amendments

According to Blanco, the amendments were compromises after seeking comments from the Executive Branch, the Public School System, and other government agencies pertaining to the legalization of cannabis.

To satisfy a compromise with PSS, the committee omitted a section in the bill that protects employees from discrimination based on their consumption of cannabis and its other edible forms.

Committee member and minority leader Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) supported removing this section of the bill. He added that the bill's intent is merely to legalize cannabis and that the bill does not change existing policies within public and private agencies.

PSS has a policy that immediately terminates employees if they test positive in a drug test. Their initial request, according to Blanco, was to exempt PSS management and the Board of Education from this provision, but the committee decided to omit it entirely.

The committee also made several compromises with the Executive Branch, such as shortening the timeframe for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to appoint members to the cannabis commission. The committee changed the 90-day timeframe for the selection of the commissioners to only 30 days, as requested by Torres, said Blanco, to which committee member Rep. Frank Aguon (R-Saipan) thinks is "proper."

Applicable to all of the NMI

The committee further amended the bill to only be applicable on Saipan. The amendment initially offered by Blanco was to only legalize cannabis on Saipan. If Rota and Tinian wish to legalize cannabis as well, it would have to be adopted through legislation introduced through their respective delegations. Committee member Rep. Edwin Aldan (R-Tinian) thought the amendment sidesteps Rota and Tinian from the bill by requiring additional legislative processes for both islands. Ultimately, the committee agreed to omit the section of the bill entirely and make it applicable to the Commonwealth as a whole rather

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WEED

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than per senatorial district.

The committee saw fit that residents of the CNMI should benefit from the legalization of cannabis, which is believed to jumpstart a new industry in the region.

S.B. 20-62 was tweaked to include amendments to reflect that only licensees with "long-term permanent interests in the licensed premises" shall be granted licenses to produce, process, and sell cannabis and its forms in the CNMI. This includes those who have private land leases and public land leases.

Commissioner, executive director qualifications

The committee added amendments that allowed commissioners and executive directors with criminal records older than 15 years in any jurisdiction of the United States, the Commonwealth, or any foreign country—except for traffic offenses—to be appointed as a commissioner or hired by the cannabis commission as an executive director.

There shall be five Saipan commissioners and two commissioners for Rota and Tinian, bringing the total number of commissioners to nine. The bill specifies that the commissioners should have at least a bachelor's degree in any post-secondary educational institution accredited in the U.S. or at least five years work experience in business management, government management, or financial management.

Executive director qualifications are the same as those of a commissioner's.

Due Diligence

Blanco said after the three-hour discussion on the bill that, although it was the intention of the committee to get the bill moving, the bill had to be further polished.

"…[We] had to get the right language in there within the bound of the law. If there are concerns raised by members, we like to entertain them," Blanco told *Saipan Tribune*.

"…Because we entertained comments from PSS, board and directors, the Executive Branch, and the public, this is a compromise draft. We are not yet done," he added.

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations confer yesterday at the House speaker's conference room on Capitol Hill to amend the Senate bill that legalizes the recreational and medicinal consumption of cannabis and creates the cannabis commission.
ERWIN ENCINARES

PRECAUTION

From Page 6

cially when it comes to legalizing cannabis for personal use.

"Cannabis legalization for recreational/personal use can lead to 'abuse' and may create many other familial and community issues. The bill states, 'allowing for adult use of marijuana will contribute to the decrease in youth access to marijuana and usage rates among the youth.' DYS stands to disagree. The legalization will make marijuana easily accessible to adults and most especially the youth, which may play a role in contributing to other parenting issues and juvenile delinquency," she said.

DYS is also concerned that legalizing cannabis may lead to dependency and addiction and would ultimately lead to the use of more serious illegal drugs.

"The long-term use and abuse will affect families and they ultimately suffer lifelong consequences. We continue to battle the ill effects of drugs and its associated problems in the CNMI. If we are talking about 'public health, safety and quality of life' for all residents…then we should continue to work to prevent the existing problems," she said.

Sablan said she personally understands that the legalization of marijuana could greatly impact medical patients in the CNMI, but as a DYS administrator and a person who has gathered statistics and has witnessed the lives of families in the CNMI who battle drug problems, the recreational use of marijuana should be carefully assessed before it is passed into law.

"As a youth service agency and an agency mandated to serve the best interest of families in our community, we would like to put an emphasis on caution," she said.

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BEACH CLEANUP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from the Northern Marianas Trade Institute, together with Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance, participate in a cleanup at Wing Beach on June 8.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning June 04, 2018; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or download an application on CHCC's website at http://chcc.gov.mp/index.php/division-of-public-health/women-infants-and-children-program

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 13, 2018.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4067, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

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/s/ **Esther L. Muna**
Chief Executive Office
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ **Erin Angela Camacho**
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Request to dismiss cashiers' suit vs poker arcade nixed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona denied yesterday the motion of a poker arcade operator to dismiss the lawsuit filed against the company by current and former cashiers, who alleged that they were not paid the minimum wage and overtime pay.

Manglona also denied Zeng American Corp.'s motion to provide a more definite statement in the lawsuit.

Manglona denied Zeng American Corp.'s motion to dismiss, saying she cannot do so without any legal basis on which to dismiss the cashiers' claims based on the Fair Labor Standards Act's statute of limitations.

On the issue of a more definite statement, Zeng American Corp. protests that the complaint is vague because plaintiffs Emelinda E. Sanchez and Ma. Gina Tiozon failed to state the exact dates on which their employment began and because the cashiers failed to specify the dates of and amounts of the "various deductions," and "deposits" made.

Manglona said the exact dates of Sanchez and Tiozon's employment and dates of the alleged deductions and deposits are all obtainable through discovery.

Moreover, Manglona said, Zeng American Corp. and its principal, Jin Dong Zeng, do not contend that the nature of the claims or relief sought are vague or unintelligible.

The judge said the defendants seek only more details that may be relevant to their defenses.

Thus, Manglona said, this is not one of the "rare occasions" on which the motion for a more definite statement should be granted and for this reason, the motion is denied.

Sanchez, Tiozon, Katrina Del Gallego Demapan, and Mary Zine G. Muhi are suing Zeng's American Corp., owner of Happy Poker, and Zeng American Corp.'s principal, Jin Dong Zeng, for alleged violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Demapan, Muhi, and Sanchez are current employees of defendants, while Tiozon is a former employee.

Demapan, Tiozon, Muhi, and Sanchez, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay them the minimum wage and overtime premium for all hours they worked, damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

The defendants then moved to dismiss the lawsuit and as an alternative, requested for a more definite statement.

Ninth Circuit names 2018 civics contest winners

SAN FRANCISCO—Young people from Arizona and California have been selected the winners of the 2018 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest, an educational outreach effort to high school students sponsored by the federal courts.

The theme of the 2018 contest was "The 14th Amendment 150 Years After Ratification: What Does Equal Protection Mean to Students?" Students were asked to write an essay or produce a short video explaining how Congress and the federal courts have applied the Equal Protection Clause to public education, whether in admissions, classrooms or on the athletic fields.

Winners in the essay competition were:

■ First place: Kelsey Luu, a senior at Irvington High School in Fremont, California;

■ Second place: James Freedman, a sophomore at Torrey Pines High School in San Diego, California;

■ Third place: Kayla Pebdani, a sophomore at La Costa Canyon High School in Carlsbad, California.

Winners in the video competition were:

■ First place: Veronica Yu, Cindy Law and Karen Thai, seniors at Arcadia High School in Arcadia, California;

■ Second place: Robert Lowell, Desarae Millet and Mariah Vasquez, seniors at Walden Grove High School in Sahuarita, Arizona;

■ Third place: Ivan Velasco and Natalia Escobedo, seniors at Coronado High School in Coronado, California.

The winning essay will be read and winning video shown on July 23, 2018, during the opening session of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference in Anaheim, California, a major gathering of the federal bench and bar from the western states. Essays and videos from all of the finalists will be posted to the contest website, www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest, in early July.

The competition was open to students in grades 9-12 in public, private, and parochial schools and home-schooled students of equivalent grade status in nine western states and two Pacific island jurisdictions. Approximately 1,300 young people entered the contest, which offered cash prizes, an opportunity for travel, and a chance to meet some of the nation's preeminent jurists and legal practitioners.

Federal courts in all 15 judicial districts in the Ninth Circuit held local contests with winners going on to compete in the circuit-wide competition. In all, 45 essays and 27 videos were selected for final consideration by the Ninth Circuit Courts and Community Committee, which organized the contest. Blind judging was employed in both the preliminary and final rounds.

"We were extremely pleased to have had so many students participate in the contest. The winning essays and videos were outstanding, demonstrating a clear understanding of the nature and importance of the Equal Protection Clause," said U.S. District Judge Janis L. Sammartino of San Diego, who chairs the Ninth Circuit Courts and Community Committee.

At the circuit level, prizes of $2,000, $1,000 and $500 will be awarded to first-, second-, and third-place winners in both the writing and video competition. In addition, first-place winners along with a parent/guardian will be invited to attend the opening session of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Prize money and travel costs for the winners are funded through attorney admission fees collected by the federal courts to fund educational programs for the bar and community. Contributions were received from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the federal courts in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the CNMI.

The Ninth Circuit Courts and Community Committee was established in 2000 by the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit, the governing body for federal courts in the West. The committee seeks to promote public understanding of and confidence in the judicial system through civic education and outreach to the community and media. The committee includes federal judges, lawyers, and court staff. This is the fifth consecutive year in which the committee has organized a civics contest in conjunction with the circuit conference. ***(PR)***

19th Annual Sophia Walk tomorrow

Are you ready?

Tomorrow, June 23, marks the 19th Annual Sophia Walk starting at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's beachfront. There will be raffles, crazy hat contest, refreshments and all participants receive a commemorative T-shirt.

All proceeds go to the CHCC Volunteers Association, which was first established in 1984.

Former first lady Sophia Tenorio, for whom the walk is named after, will be present at the event and will also be one of the judges for the Crazy Hat Contest.

Registration is ongoing until today at the Fiesta Resort & Spa, Kanoa Resort, Century Hotel, iSHOP. Registrations can also be picked up at CHCC gift shop. Checks can be payable to CHCC Volunteers Association.

Early registration is $10 per person (ages 4 and over) on or before June 22 and increases to $15 per person on event day.

The first 500 participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, courtesy of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

Registration and T-shirt distribution on June 23 opens at 6:30am with the walk starting at 7am at Fiesta Resort beach. Participants will walk/run toward Micro Beach, through Smiling Cove parking lot and up to the top of the Eloy S. Inos Peace Park and back.

For more information, email sophiawalksaipan@gmail.com or call Fiesta Resort at 234-6412.

Event sponsors are Tan-Holdings Corp., Tan Siu Lin Foundation, DFS T Galleria, Kanoa Resort, Let's Go, SeaTouch, Herman's Modern Bakery, Triple J Enterprises, Gold's Gym, Joeten Superstore, JC Tenorio Enterprises, MarPac, Pacific Islands Club, Hyatt Regency Saipan, D&Q, H Mart, Coca Cola, Hong Electric Enterprises, Royal Sourcing Wholesale, Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Acqua Panna, the ARC, iSHOP, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Wines & Spirits, PTC, Micronesian Brokers Inc., Luen Fung Enterprises, Saipan Water, Yaong, Century Hotel, GrandVrio Resort, KKMP, Natural Nail Spa, and I LOVE Saipan. ***(PR)***

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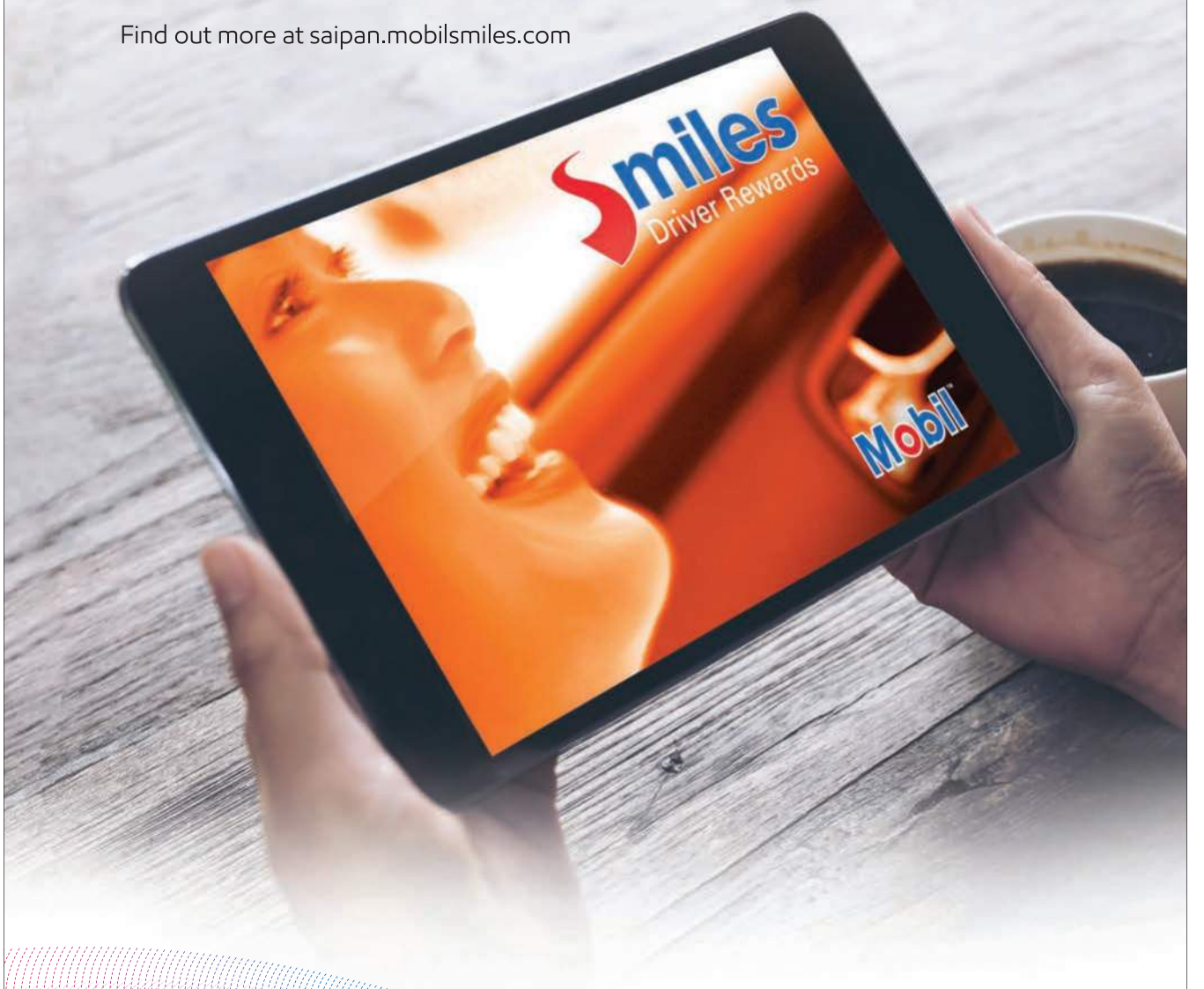

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Group organizes free health screening

More than a hundred persons from diverse ethnic groups on Saipan availed of a free health screening at the San Antonio Parish Social Hall last month.

"We have been doing these free health screenings in the CNMI for the past eight years and we are so overwhelmed by the turnout because more people are becoming aware and conscious of their health and lifestyle," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, who chairs the groups that organized the health screening.

The health screening was organized by the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea Marianas chapter, US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter, BAYANi-Bayan Bago Sarili, National Federation of Filipino American Associations CNMI Chapter, and the Asian community of the CNMI.

Those with high blood pressure measurements and blood sugar readings were advised to consult their primary physicians.

"Health is one of the important things in our lives. We should be responsible for our health and lifestyle. There may be doctors and nurses in the hospitals and clinics, but ultimately, we should be proactive in maintaining our good health," said Ronald Lamkin, one of the volunteers.

Lamkin credited the success of the outreach to the efforts of Felisa Legaspi, Elizabeth Escobar- Mendiola, Northern Marianas College Nursing students Ruby Jean Belingon, Clarice Canarejo, Joann Villaluna and Ella May David, NMC Nursing Club president Kaiza Lucido, Lucita T. Reyes, Fanny dela Rosa, Jovy Brondo, Juan Gacayan, Edgar Gacayan, Ben Magia, Bella Magia, Jun Jun Gacayan, Diomedes Talini, Jr., Edward Agda, Jericho Santos, San Antonio Parish Church, Rev. Fr. Romil Aperocho, and John Raymond Sablan. ***(PR)***

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'Reduced tension in Korea good for Marianas'

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Marianas' ties to South Korea and regional stability were the focus for Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) yesterday in a meeting with vice foreign minister Lim Sung-nam.

Lim is the highest ranking official of the South Korean government to visit Washington, D.C. since President Donald Trump's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un last week.

Sablan met Lim along with Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA), co-chair of the Congressional Study Group on Korea, and Reps. Joe Wilson (R-SC) and John Faso (R-NY).

Sablan said he is optimistic about improvements in the relations between the U.S. and North Korea and how that will benefit the Marianas. "De-escalation of tensions has to have a positive effect on our region generally," Sablan said. "Whether it is Korean business looking for investment opportunities or Korean families who want to vacation, everyone is going to feel a little more confident about the future, if the U.S. and North Korea are talking."

Lim urged the congressmen to continue to speak in favor of denuclearization and to support peaceful settlement of grievances on the Korean peninsula. And the lawmakers reaffirmed America's alliance with South Korea.

"South Korea, particularly President Moon Jae-in, has to be congratulated for acting as a go-between for North Korea and the U.S.," Sablan said. "President Moon's outreach to the North was really the catalyst for what became the Singapore summit. And, of course, it was the South Korean government that carried the North's initial invitation to meet to President Trump.

"The geopolitics of our Western Pacific region are very much in flux these days," the Marianas delegate said. "I think we all have to learn the importance of talking with each other—especially with those we disagree with." ***(PR)***

Marianas Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and members of the Congressional Study Group on Korea met with vice foreign minister Lim Sung-nam of the Republic of Korea at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday. Lim is the top-ranked official to come from the ROK to consult with Congress since last week's Singapore summit between President Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong-un.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Scheduled power interruptions

There will be scheduled power interruptions today and tomorrow.

Today, June 22, the outage will affect Susupe and Chalan Kanoa from 7am to 12pm. It will cover Shirley's Restaurant and Chalan Kanoa Drive. No water well or wastewater lift station will be affected.

On Saturday, June 23, the outage will occur in Tanapag, from 5am to 10am, affecting San Roque and As Matuis. All water wells in San Roque and As Matuis will be affected. All lift stations in San Roque and As Matuis will also be affected.

That same day, June 23, from 1pm to 5pm, the power outage will occur in Oleai. The Saipan Mayor's Office will be affected. All water wells and wastewater lift stations in San Roque and As Matuis will be affected.

The purpose of these power interruptions is to de-energize utility lines and allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and its contractor to safely replace wood poles with concrete poles. The project tasks are part of CUC's ongoing Hazard Mitigation Project that focuses on strengthening and hardening CUC's power distribution system through the replacement of 787 wooden poles with concrete poles. Of the 787 wooden poles to be replaced, 696 pole replacements have been made by CUC and its contractor.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(CUC)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Marylyn Montano, who is celebrating her special day today, June 22, 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 22nd birthday to my beautiful daughter, Teisha Camacho. Seeing you all grown up, I realize how time flies. I am so proud to call you my daughter and I love you more than words can express. May more birthday wishes come for you and love you always. Greetings come from Mom.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Instructors Jenny Dayrit, Maria Mendoza, and Nelly Sablan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Group targets schools for substance abuse prevention

A non-profit organization created in 2013 is partnering with the William S. Reyes Elementary School and Hopwood Middle School to pilot as substance abuse prevention program for schools, families, and communities.

Achieve CNMI Inc. is working on spearheading the evidence-based program called The Botvin LifeSkills Training, better known as LST, which hopes to build the community's resistance to drugs.

Under a grant awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Achieve CNMI, Inc. will work with CHCC's Community Guidance Center-Substance Abuse Prevention Services Unit to accomplish the LST program learning objectives, in which participants gain skills in personal self-

See GROUP on Next Page

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

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CUC-RFP-18-019

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-18-019 – Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

FREE Small Business Development Workshops

HR Topic: Creating A Drug Free , Weapon Free, & Well-Being Workplace Policy

Thursday, June 28, 2018

8:30am—9:30am

Location: CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose

Presented by:
Michael Dotts, Dotts Law Firm

Michael Dotts has been an attorney in the CNMI for more than 25 years. Much of his career has been spent representing employers with employment issues. Michael started his career in San Francisco with a law firm that represented employers in union negotiations and before the NLRB. On Saipan he represented numerous employers in investigations and brought by the Department of Labor related to claims of unpaid overtime. He has also represented numerous employers in investigations and in Federal Court actions brought by the EEOC, and he has also defended employers sued for wrongful termination.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Instructors Rebecca Flores and Mary Elchico.

Instructors Claire Barcinas and Joseph Skilang. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Hopwood Middle School teacher James Jucutan introducing the program to 6th grade students.

GROUP

From Page 12

management, social competency, and resistance to drugs.

Personal management skills involve students developing skills that enhance their self-esteem, develop problem-solving skills, help them reduce stress and anxiety, and manage anger.

Students gain skills to meet personal challenges such as overcoming shyness, communicating clearly, building relationships, and avoiding violence in social competency. Finally, students build effective defenses against pressures to use tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

The first cohort of instructors is composed of teachers, a counselor and an administrator from the participating schools. All instructors have undergone a provider training online, showing their commitment and dedication to help students gain valuable skills needed to accomplish the program learning objectives.

The instructors were required to complete three sessions in the early morning hours due to the time difference between Saipan and New York. The first session was a trainer-led live workshop. The self-paced course was completed on their own time before the third and final trainer-led live session.

WSR is currently implementing the LST this summer for students and parents.

Achieve CNMI, Inc., hopes to send four of its members to attend the Training of Trainers this August in Lakewood, Colorado to build local capacity and program sustainability. For more information about our program or if you are a teacher who would like to implement LST at your school, email achievecnmi@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

CASH FOR COLLEGE NMC
College-bound students on Tinian recently attended Northern Marianas College's Cash for College where they received help in finding money for college. In total, about 500 students from Saipan, Rota, and Tinian were assisted at the recent Cash for College workshops held over the past several days. If you missed the Cash for College workshops, NMC's Financial Aid Office can still help you find money for college! Contact the financial aid staff at 237-6792 or email daisy.propst@marianas.edu.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
VR
CNMI

INDEPENDENT LIVING OLDER BLIND PROGRAM (ILOB)

Independence is the goal!

The **ILOB Program** serves individuals who are legally blind or severely visually impaired whose corrected vision in the better eye is 20/70 or worse.

CHECKLIST
- Vision-Impaired
- 55 Years or Older
- Goal: To live independently as much as possible

Our federally-funded
ILOB Program
provides independent living services to individuals with visual impairment ages 55 years and older to assist them in maintaining their independence at home and in their communities.

For more information or to apply for services:
Call 322-6537/8 or visit us at: ovrgov.net

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A crying shame, in our country's name

You needn't be clairvoyant to foresee that the Trump administration's policy of confiscating immigrant children as if they were forbidden contraband will one day be remembered as one of the darkest moments in U.S. legal history. It is destined to take its place alongside the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision and the Roosevelt administration's internment of Japanese-Americans as a signal reminder that even a nation dedicated to liberty and justice for all can lose its way.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders' embarrassing attempts to conjure scriptural authority for the government's practice of separating children from their undocumented parents cannot disguise its intrinsic cruelty. Images like the one reproduced here have already diminished America's moral stature among freedom-loving peoples around the world, including many who historically regarded the United States as the ultimate defender of human rights.

To be clear, the White House has not explicitly ordered federal border agents to wrest babies from the breasts of mothers seeking asylum in the U.S.

But Attorney General Jeff Sessions' insistence that any adult suspected of attempting to enter the country illegally be criminally prosecuted, and dispatched to a federal jail, makes such separations inevitable, because federal law forbids children from accompanying their parents to such facilities.

Reports that parents who present themselves at the border to request asylum are being similarly jailed and separated from their children compound the government's culpability for what has become a self-inflicted humanitarian crisis.

The Obama administration's practice of housing undocumented families indefinitely in overcrowded detention facilities was not dramatically more humane, and the federal courts eventually intervened to curtailed it, ordering that most families be released pending deportation hearings. Inevitably, some of those released from detention have opted to go off the government's radar, swelling the population of undocumented aliens the president likens to a pandemic plague.

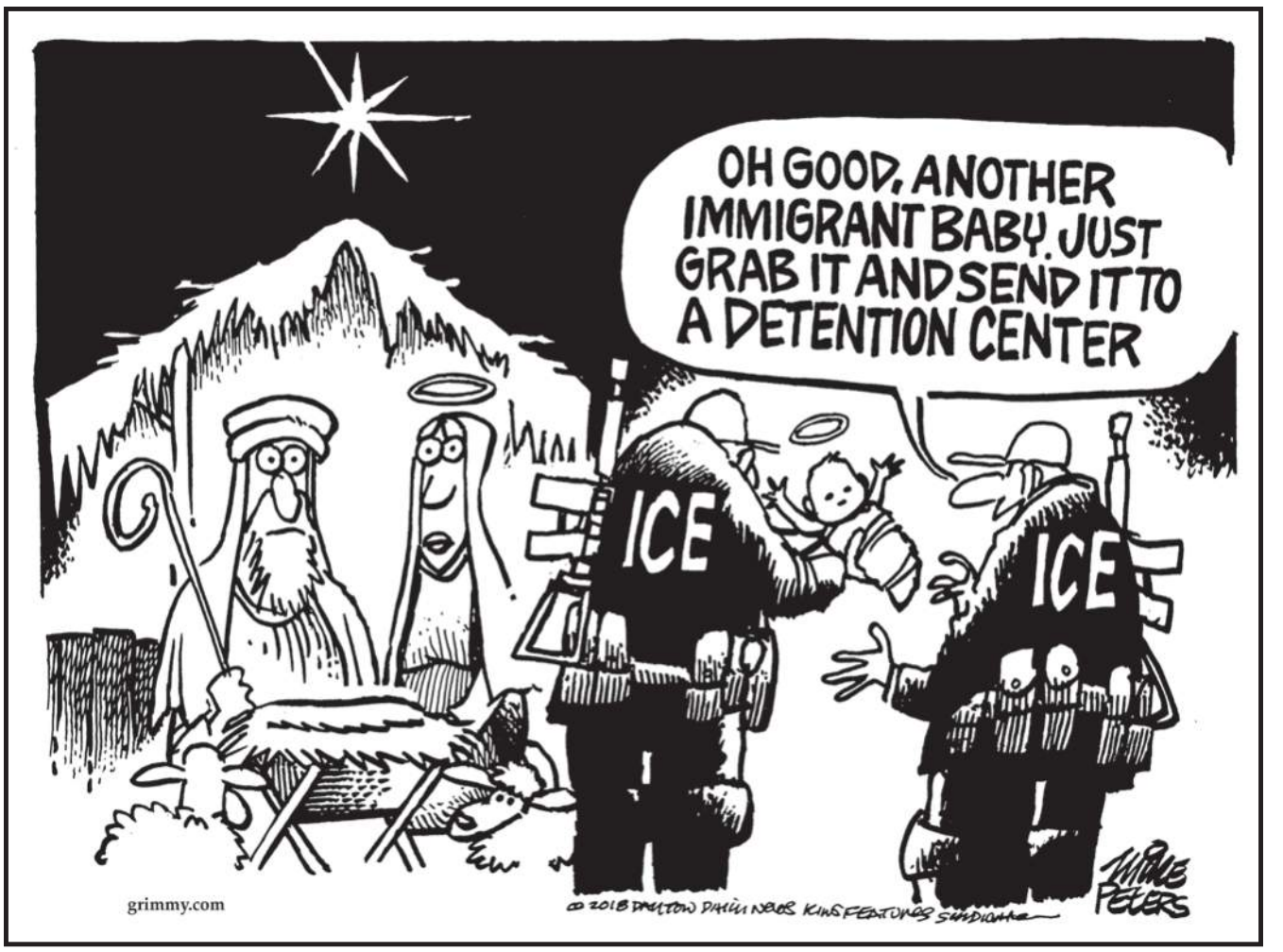
But the Trump administration's draconian solution—the hyper-criminalization of what is, for most, a desperate flight toward physical safety and economic security—has run roughshod over the defenseless immigrant children in its path.

Those responsible for sorting out custody disputes and allegations of parental neglect have recognized for decades that involuntary separation from one's parents is a traumatic event of seismic proportions. The law generally allows such separations only when they are necessary to assure a child's well-being.

That's why family court judges and lawyers have been particularly shocked and sickened by the government's callous disregard for the best interests of immigrant children.

If another country's border patrol agents were seizing children from their parents and warehousing them abandoned discount stores, it might suffice to condemn those abuses, demand access for inspectors from the International Red Cross, and call for diplomatic intervention by the U.S. and allies who were proud, in better times, to link arms with

See COUNTRY'S on Next Page


OH GOOD, ANOTHER IMMIGRANT BABY. JUST GRAB IT AND SEND IT TO A DETENTION CENTER
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MIKE PETERS

The D-student

Now that summertime has arrived, so too has the annual rite of vacation-plan braggadocio. It's pretty tame this time around, though. That's because many of my pals, after decades of overexposure to the sun, are trying not to tan their hides. Well, make that what's left of their hides after the dermatologist has carved out various and sundry chunks. So maybe this year, Buffalo is a better play than Bali.

After all, the afterglow of what we used to call a "healthy glow" might not be so healthy after all.

On the other hand, nobody ever heard of a healthy pallor.

The sun seems to be cast as both hero and villain. I've watched the plot veer back and forth over the decades, so I'll mention some of the recent action.

One twist in the plot is that the sun isn't the only character on the stage. Vitamin D, which is produced by the interaction of sunlight with our skin, is also a major player. And what about sunscreen? We'll have to look at that, too.

The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association, in May 2017, published a report, "Vitamin D Deficiency, Its Role in Health and Disease, and Current Supplementation Recommendations," authored by Kim M. Pfotenhauer, D.O. and Jay H. Shubrook, D.O. The gist is that Vitamin D is really important for good health. However, 1 billion people are Vitamin D deficient, says the report. "Insufficient sunlight exposure" is listed as one cause for Vitamin D deficiency.

I first heard about this Vitamin D thing from an old-school doctor a bunch of years ago. He was nobody's mule; he was very much his own man, and I liked his independence of mind. He said that a lack of Vitamin D increased the risk of certain types of cancer, and he therefore advised taking Vitamin D3 supplements. I suspect that if you went to his office and downed a triple-bacon-cheeseburger, washed it down with a glass of jet fuel (stirred, not shaken), and then fired up a cigar for dessert, the ol' boy would not bat an eye. Heck, he'd probably dig a Macanudo out of his white coat and join you. But if you shorted yourself on Vitamin D, well, you'd hear about it for sure.

Well, I was sold, and I became a D-student; "D" for Vitamin D, that is. However, this take is hardly universal. Several items in the health news have recently taken a dim view of vitamin supplements, saying that if you take them you're just flushing your money down the commode.

Meanwhile, the magic lotion that was supposed to keep the sun's bite at bay might have harbored an unintended consequence. People may have gotten a false sense of security, and, with it, more sun damage that they bargained for. This hinges on a distinction between frequencies in the ultraviolet chunk of the light spectrum. One range of frequencies, called UVB, causes the visible burns and is blocked (at least to a large extent) by sunscreen formulations.

So, no burn, no problem, right?

Well, not so fast. There's another range of frequencies, called UVA, that's apparently not blocked by all the formulations out there, and which doesn't cause visible burns, but which has been implicated in skin damage, to include, yes, skin cancer.

Incidentally, UVA is a longer wavelength than UVB, and, in fact, UVA actually borders the visible end of the spectrum. It penetrates the skin deeper than UVB does.

The Journal of Investigative Dermatology, October 2003, had a report by Haywood *et al, "'"*"Sunscreens Inadequately Protect Against Ultraviolet-A-Induced Free Radicals in Skin." I'll admit that high school chemistry did not equip me to understand the entire report, but we did talk about moles a lot, which seems like a good mesh with matters dermatological.

Anyway, here's the nut quote: "Despite the extensive use of sunscreens during the last two decades, the incidence of skin cancers is still increasing."

So let's summarize this stuff. Too much sun, we know, can mess up our skin and even trigger cancer. Too little sun, on the other hand, might cheat us out of vital Vitamin D. Vitamin D pills can help plug that gap, unless it's the case that vitamin supplements don't do any good, as asserted in some quarters. Meanwhile, sunscreen, long trusted to keep us safe from the sun, could conceivably sucker us into overexposure that harbors invisible (at the time) damage, though specifics on this count will depend on the exact formulation of sunscreen being used.

Facing all these tradeoffs and contradictory factors, I've decided to confront them with a contradictory force of my own. Not to intimidate you with my scientific prowess, but I will simply offset the Avagadro phases by amplifying the interference pattern of their quantum waves. So here's my plan for the summer: Wherever I decide to go on vacation, I'll just go somewhere else instead.

And they say that D-students aren't bright. Ha!

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Eerie quiet in paradise

A lot of folks have noticed the eerie silence here in recent weeks. Is it the usual calm before the storm or something more ominous? Or is it simply a natural phenomenon in the scorching heat of summer?

At the same time, I can't place my finger on a haunting and persistent echo at dusk. Or has my imagination gone on overdrive?

Meanwhile, some 75,000 illegal kids enter the country's southern border monthly. Yet the lamestream media's manufactured crisis blames Trump for the separation of kids and parents. Trump has done something about it to rectify current laws approved by Democrats.

Anyway, let's share preliminary views on relevant issues here before the raucous slugfest picks up speed and decibels.

Number 80! It's hard pinning down decent rationale why the powers-that-be raised their salaries by 80 percent while ditching nearly 15,000 employees literally struggling with poverty income level and below. It must be a show of unhinged arrogance and greed!

The new increase raises the governor's from $70,000 to $120,000 while legislators (with all perks included) $70,000 to $106,000 per year. And they threw 5 percent breadcrumbs at civil servants.

Closer scrutiny shows the huge difference in salaries between the elected elite against everybody else. If you're a civil service employee earning $24,600 per year, you're looking at a $30,000 gap. It's oceans apart!

This action slides into what's known as income "inequality" that slams its ugly face into the term corruption! Despicably pathetic! Voters can say their piece this November when they send the foggy minded incompetent bunch permanently into the sunset.

Feud: My source said Republicans are struggling in a three-way feud over control of the party this election year. Understood the struggle in who commands the troops. It's all about "Are you da boss of me?"

Meanwhile, Democrats and independent have formalized unity recently. The mood is a stark difference versus the GOP in the level of enthusiasm and fellowship. There's that determination to upset the apple cart at all cost. It has the natural narrative to slam its nemesis at will, rain or shine!

Anyway, it's the nature of the beast. The exhausted GOP isn't sure it could navigate the rough seas of self-inflicted arrogance and greed.

Necessity: As the Babauta-Sablan tandem firms up plans to visit the campaign trail, Raffy and Arnie are dazed and deeply troubled by the obvious: 80-percent salary hike that openly skips poverty income employees. What could Raffy do to mend the fatal oversight on the dire need to improve the buying power of thousands of families it ignored with four months before the election?

Collusion? Whatever happened to your oath of office to uphold the laws of the land? Or did you lose your coconuts because Biktot Hokog is from the same political party? Has Gov. Raffy asked his lieutenant to pay back the $400,000?

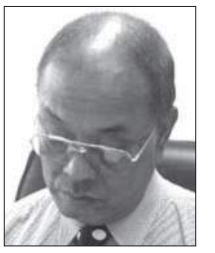
Have any of the Republican members of the Legislature insisted that this corrupt expropriation of taxpayers' money is repaid forthwith? Or have you guys gotten "collusion" down to an art?

Maanee: Meanwhile, I understand there's about $20 million in the so-called Marianas Chest. Would this be used for another pay off of Ulithi, oops, utility bills like they did four years ago?

Fed law: Took a quick glimpse into what's known as the Hobbs Act as it relates to bribery and public corruption. It's written in plain English and I'd like to share it verbatim for your own benefit. Well, ignorance of the law isn't an excuse. It's good to know what you're up against both in terms of local and federal law. Be guided accordingly.

"Most public corruption cases involve allegations that a public official solicited or received a bribe, kickback, or gratuity "in return for" or "in connection with" some official action, or that a person offered or gave such a bribe, kickback or gratuity to the public official "in return for" or "in connection with an official act." "A bribe or gratuity does not have to be given or received—the promise alone is usually enough to constitute a crime.

"Even if a public official corruptly accepts money for an act he would have taken anyway, he still may be guilty under federal bribery and public corruption statutes. The intricacies of these federal public corruption statutes, and the subtle defenses available through U.S. Supreme Court case law require sophisticated legal representation at the earliest possible stage." Review this law even if it means reading it all over well into the wee hours of dawn.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

COUNTRY'S

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us in a humanitarian cause.

But the children in question are being seized by American government employees—fellow citizens paid with our tax dollars, and acting in our name. We are complicit in the cruel policy they are carrying out (and it is a policy, not a law they are constitutionally obliged to enforce), at least until we have exhausted our efforts to demand that the White House and Michigan's elected representatives in Washington stop it.

Sens. Tina Smith and Sen. Dianne Feinstein have introduced legislation would both prevent continuing removals and provide remedies and resources for children from their parents by immigration authorities. Both their bills deserve the support of Michigan's senators and congressional delegation.

Constituents should be especially vigilant about making sure that Republican lawmakers who express their solidarity by appearing with Vice President Mike Pence during his Michigan campaign swing hold the Trump administration accountable for its excesses.

The spectacle of the world's most prosperous democracy ripping children from their parents arms has appalled compassionate people of every faith, nationality and political stripe. It is time to let them know that Michiganders are no less horrified than they are by what our country's immigration authorities are doing to children in our name.

(c)2018 *Detroit Free Press*

Zero tolerance at the border is not 'conservative'

By KRISTEN MCQUEARY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Controversial and stepped-up law enforcement separating children from their parents suspected of illegally crossing the southwestern U.S. border is a broad example of what conservatives and liberals should be agreeing on: Zero tolerance policies don't work.

They don't work in schools. They don't work in the criminal justice system. They don't work in life.

Conservatives such as Attorney General Jeff Sessions should know this. It's why, in this state, right-leaning and left-leaning members of the Illinois General Assembly have been working together to unwind tough-on-crime sentencing guidelines for nonviolent offenders. They have been rewriting state laws on low-level marijuana possession. They are working together to make it easier for juvenile criminal records to be expunged. They are working on relieving prison overcrowding.

And they are lifting barriers to employment for ex-cons, easing professional licensing requirements for former felons and in some cases banning employers from asking about past criminal history. They agree that removing barriers to work, even for those with a scarred past, is principled and proper.

These efforts, led by groups that include the conservative Illinois Policy Institute and the liberal American Civil Liberties Union, reflect the consensus that zero tolerance policies don't leave room for exceptions, for reasonableness or for second chances.

Those principles should be applied at the federal level too. While consistent application of immigration law is crucial—and has been thwarted by a deadlocked, spineless Congress for decades—the enforcement of zero tolerance policies on border control doubles down on wrong.

The Department of Homeland Security reported that between April 19 and May 31 after Sessions announced a stepped-up zero tolerance approach along the border, nearly 2,000 kids were separated from 1,940 adults who claimed to be their parents or guardians. Some were under the age of 4.

There is no Bible verse that inspires that harshness, particularly if families are seeking relief from unlivable, dangerous conditions in their home country. Somehow, in their despair and desperation they didn't get Sessions' memo.

He should know that separating kids, including teenagers, from parents and caregivers is a trauma that three meals a day, two snacks and air conditioning cannot overcome.

And remember, these are parents who have been referred for prosecution and detainment. They have not been convicted.

It is not equivalent to justify the latest cases of border separation by comparing it to day-to-day law enforcement involving American citizens, as some supporters of the Sessions' policy have tried to do. They say parents here who commit crimes and go to jail risk losing their children, too. It's a consequence of breaking the law.

Understood. But our laws also attempt to put the best interests of the child first. Child custody agencies try to keep families together even when parents break the law or behave badly. When kids must be taken, attempts are made to place them with relatives or family friends. Foster care and group homes are a last resort. It's not perfect, but it's not comparable to confining kids to empty warehouses. Yes, immigration policy was broken before. It's more broken now.

You can be conservative and pro-law enforcement. You can be conservative and favor strict enforcement of immigration law. You can be conservative and support building a border wall. And you can be all of the above—and compassionate and reasonable too. This administration's zero tolerance approach is wrong. Find another way.

Kristen McQueary is a member of the Chicago Tribune *Editorial Board.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Clarification

I would like to correct one erroneous statement in the article by Ms. Kimberly Bautista titled, "Our sanctuaries are being raped" that was published on June 20, 2018. The article states that "The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries was mandated and promised to conduct educational and research programs, as well as resource protection, but they allegedly have not."

This is severely inaccurate. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries manages a system of 13 national marine sanctuaries and Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries does not oversee or is in any way involved with the management of the CNMI Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

It is indeed unfortunate that many discussions of what a national marine monument could bring to the people of CNMI have not come to fruition. The decision not to have the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries as a co-manager was made when the CNMI Marine Monument was created in 2009.

We request that the *Saipan Tribune* publish a correction, to provide clarity and better serve your audience.

More information about the CNMI Mariana's trench marine national monument can be found here:

- http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/MNM/mnm_marianas-trench.html
- https://www.fws.gov/refuge/mariana_trench_marine_national_monument/

To learn more about the Office of National Marine sanctuaries and the places we protect go to https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/.

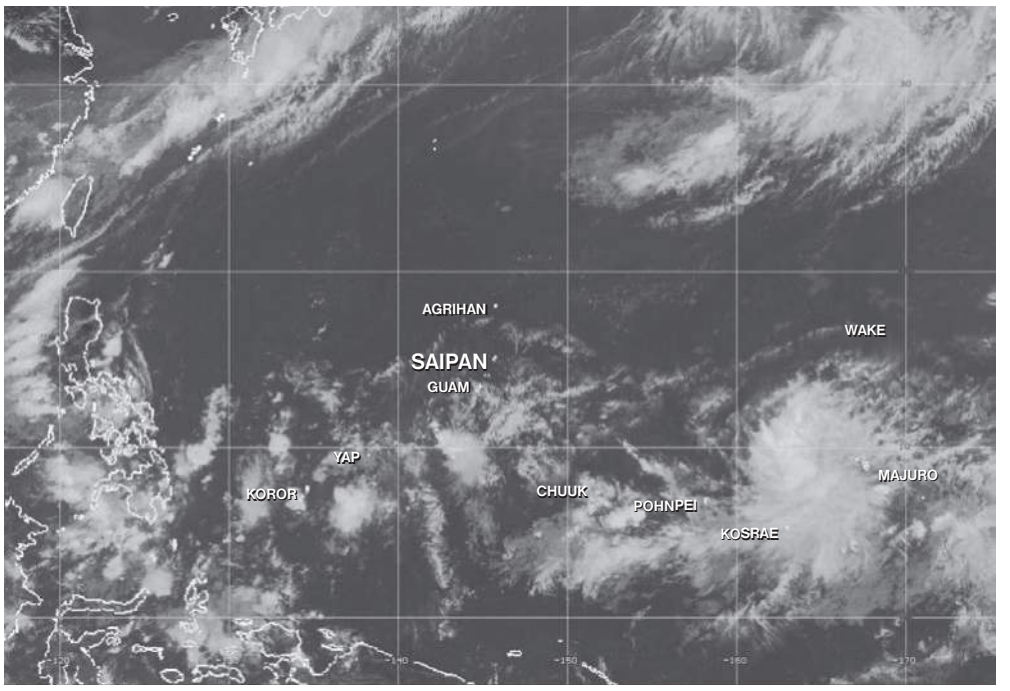
Allen Tom
Regional director
Pacific Is. Region, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
Kihei (Maui), Hawaii

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:42 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak trough is passing south of the Marianas this morning, with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms as far north as 12N. In the Marianas waters, showers are isolated, with moderate trade winds and combined seas of 3 to 5 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 48°
Beijing	Sunny	93° / 70°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 82°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	87° / 75°
London	Sunny	70° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	81° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°
Melbourne	Showers	55° / 43°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
New York	Partly Cloudy	74° / 65°
Osaka	Cloudy	81° / 72°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	68° / 48°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	79° / 66°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	82° / 63°
Salem	Thunderstorm	90° / 73°
San Francisco	Sunny	68° / 56°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	88° / 66°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	81° / 72°
Washington, DC	Showers	82° / 64°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:59 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.97
9:53 AM	LOW TIDE	0.49
3:43 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.39
9:16 PM	LOW TIDE	0.69

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:18 AM	1:48 PM
Saturday	-	1:59 AM	2:39 PM
Sunday	-	2:40 AM	3:30 PM
Monday	-	3:22 AM	4:20 PM
Tuesday	-	4:05 AM	5:11 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Joeten foundation awards $14K scholarships

The Joeten Daidai Foundation awarded a total of $14,000 worth of scholarships to seven high school graduates at the Joeten Susupe executive conference room last Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Each recipient received a check for $2,000 to assist them with their college funds.

Six recipients were selected from Saipan and one recipient was from Rota; there were no candidates that applied from Tinian this year.

The scholars are Louise Z. Li of Marianas High School, Mei Lin of Saipan Southern High School, Shana Mafnas of Mount Carmel School, Ma. Chrizelle Omotoy of Marianas High School, Theresa Zheng of Mount Carmel School, and Mary B. Jingco of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School.

One scholarship was exclusively granted to a child of an employee of one of Joeten's subsidiaries or affiliates. Quina S. Flores of Mount Carmel School received that award.

Each student will be pursuing their bachelor degrees in either Business, Education or Health.

The eligible high school seniors were anonymously chosen by the board of directors based on their grade point average, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and academic excellence. Additionally, each student was tasked to write an essay on a quote from the late Steve Jobs: "Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students Shana Mafnas, Louise Li, Quina Flores and Chrizelle Omotoy pose with Joeten Daidai Foundation trustee Clarence T. Tenorio, other Joeten affiliates, and parents.

Established in 1994, the Joeten Daidai Foundation has continually fulfilled its mission to give back to the community by promoting the advancement of education, religion, science, and charitable deeds. The donations awarded by the Joeten Daidai Foundation would not be feasible without the generosity and support from the Joeten affiliates, such as Saipan Shipping Co., Saipan Stevedore Co., Pacific Insurance Underwriters, Inc. among many other business partners of Joeten, and friends. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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1st AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRFIELD MARKING AND SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP Nos. 3-69-0003-26/XX).**

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **2:00 PM. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018.** Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read immediately after at the Airport Conference Room, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal.

The Project, in general, requires the removal and replacement of all airfield markings, procurement and replacement of airfield signage and other miscellaneous work in accordance with the plans and specifications and in compliance with FAA's Advisory Circular No. 150/5340-1L.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.2 (Contract Time) of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specifications. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.4 (Liquidated Damages) of the General Project Requirements. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plan and specification documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Port Manager's Office at 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: June 6, 2018

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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1ST AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARFF BUILDING RENOVATION, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0011-28/XX.**

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"TNI ARFF BUILDING RENOVATIONS, Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-28/XX"*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018,** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after the deadline on the same day.

The project, in general, consist of the TNI ARFF Builidng Renovation, extension and construction of new building. It includes demolition of existing ARFF Dispatch and first bay of the aforesaid building. A three storey building will be constructed as this site, and the remaining building will receive extension of frontage at Bay 2 and Bay 3. A new auxiliary building will be constructed adjacent to the building. Also, this project includes replacement of existing chainlink fence, replacement of water tank, additional parking and other associated works, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **Four Hundred Thirty (430) Calendar Days.** Liquidated damages in the amount of **One Thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the departure terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED U.S. DOLLARS ($200.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Tinian Ports Manager's Office at the Tinian International Airport at **10:00 AM, MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018,** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: June 6, 2018

Lions Club donates rice to Kristo Rai Parish

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club and the Saipan Alliance Lions Club have banded together and made a large donation of rice to the Kristo Rai Parish.

The donation forms part of the five centennial service challenges for the two Lions clubs based on Saipan: Youth, environment, vision, diabetes, and hunger.

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club and the Saipan Alliance Lions Club turned over 50 bags of rice at 10 lbs apiece Wednesday to Kristo Rai Parish to complete the "relieving hunger"" part of their centennial service challenge. Fr. Ken Hezel received the donation on behalf of the parish.

According to Ladyvir Canape, Kristo Rai Parish has reported that some members of the congregation have asked from time to time whether the church can spare some food. Hezel said that people would randomly approach him and ask if there is available food to share. This prompted the two Lions clubs to link arms for this purpose.

At the end of the day, Canape said, their main goal as Lions is to give as much as they possibly can to serve the needs of the community.

Canape said the funding for the rice came from both clubs' fundraising events held throughout the year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Saipan Marianas Lions Club and the Saipan Alliance Lions Club banded together and made a large donation of rice to the Kristo Rai Parish.

Ex-PSS chief insists she's entitled to a hearing

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ex-Public School System commissioner Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero insists that she is more than entitled to a hearing—as a matter of law—to defend herself against the stigma of having been fired by the Board of Education.

Deleon Guerrero, though counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, said the position of PSS commissioner is prestigious and "not just anyone can occupy the same, to say the least."

"So for anyone to occupy such a position, only to be accused as being a person not able to work with others, is a stigma that denies that person the honor and respect that got her the commissioner's position in the first place," Nicholas said.

Nicholas made the argument in Deleon Guerrero's reply to BOE members' opposition to her motion for reconsideration of the district court's dismissal of her lawsuit.

Deleon Guerrero is suing the BOE and its members for terminating her as PSS commissioner last October. She is demanding $350,000 in damages.

Last May 30, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed with prejudice Deleon Guerrero's two claims: violation of her due process rights and conspiracy to violate her due process rights.

Dismissal with prejudice means Deleon Guerrero can no longer re-file the claims.

Deleon Guerrero asked the court to reconsider, asserting that the manifest errors of law in her case will make her suffer injustice.

In the BOE members' opposition to the motion for reconsideration, they asserted that they are puzzled with the argument raised by Deleon Guerrero.

BOE and its members, through special assistant attorney general Tiberius D. Mocanu, said Deleon Guerrero argues that she should be entitled to a pre-termination hearing because BOE chairwoman MaryLou S. Ada had stated that she did not get along with her.

Mocanu said Deleon Guerrero contests the accuracy of that statement, yet how is that even possible.

In Deleon Guerrero's reply to the opposition, Nicholas said the BOE members' response wherein they continue to make arguments that, at best, mixes "apples and oranges" and without so much as making any attempt to address the controlling legal authorities based on CNMI and federal laws which Deleon Guerrero argues are very much applicable in this case.

Nicholas said the defendants continue to make arguments that mix Deleon Guerrero's property interest with that of her liberty interest.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-010-18

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), a public corporation and an instrumentality of the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is soliciting proposals from qualified persons or firms to provide Risk Management Consultant Services for the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Request for Proposal (RFP) package may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport beginning June 15, 2018, from Monday to Friday, excluding holidays, between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Deadline for submission of all proposals is Friday, July 16, 2018, before 2:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time (Saipan Time). All proposals must be addressed to Christopher S. Tenorio, Executive Director and submitted to his office, mentioned above.

Deadline for submission of all questions and clarifications (RFI) is June 29, 2018. All questions should be submitted via email to chris.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp with copy to atudela@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA shall have the right to reject, in whole or in part, proposals or offers which have been submitted in response to the RFP, and/or cancel the RFP if it is determined to be in the interest of CPA and/or for whatever reasons allowed by law and/or regulations. This right to reject and/or cancel is also pursuant to the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulation.

Proposer's direct or indirect contact with any CPA board members, management, staff, or any persons participating in the selection process is prohibited.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Date: June 07, 2018

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the Perimeter Security Fence Replacement at the Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport, Rota, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, Project AIP No. CPA-RS-002-15.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, Rota, CNMI, Project No. CPA-RS-002-15" and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after 2:00 p.m. on the same day..

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to complete removal of fencing and concrete post footings and installation of new fence and concrete footings, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED ($300.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager's Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2018**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety or CPA approved company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority. All bidders shall comply with all U.S. and CNMI laws pertaining to construction.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of June 22, 2018

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Yu Lu	6/20/2018 SPI-2018-X-165	Hand-Clearing of Vegetation	Manilao Drive, Puerto Rico	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
2. Ocean Tour Corporation	6/15/2018 SLR-2018-X-164	Kayak & Snorkeling	All Saipan Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
3. Luana Inc. dba Heart of Gold Divers	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-163	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Obyan, & Laolao	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
4. Aqua Soul Saipan, Inc.	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-162	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Obyan, & Laolao	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
5. Aqua Del Rey Saipan Incorporation	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-161	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Obyan, & Laolao	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
6. World Corporation dba Wave Jungle	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-160	Kayak, Snorkeling, Standup Paddle Board, Windsurfing, & Floaters	World Resort beach side	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
7. The Rose Empire Corp. Flyboy Parasailing	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-158	Parasailing & Snorkeling	Outer Cove Marina	Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
8. The Rose Empire Corp. dba Flyboy Water Sports	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-157	Banana Boat & Snorkeling	Outer Cove Marina	Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
9. The Rose Empire Corp. dba Power Dive Saipan	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-156	Seawalker & SCUBA Diving	Outer Cove Marina	Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
11. D'Alma Incorporation dba SCUBA Center Diveman	6/14/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-152	SCUBA Diving & Snorkeling	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
12. S.U.I Corporation dba LJ Tour	6/13/2018 SLR-2018-X-149	Snorkeling	Grotto & Managaha	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review
13. Trac Huynh/Megumi Takaku Blue Palms Dive Service	6/11/2018 RLRm-2018-X-0611	SCUBA Diving	All Rota Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review*
13. Hiroshi Yamamoto dba Rubin Corporation	6/8/2018 RLRm-2018-X-0608	SCUBA Diving	All Rota Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Under Review*
14. Marianas Sports Club, Inc. dba MSC	6/13/2018 S/T/RLR-2018-X-148	SCUBA Diving & Snorkeling	All Saipan, Tinian, & Rota Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/21/2018
15. AQUAVILLE, INC.	6/13/2018 SLR-2018-X-146	Banana boat	Saipan Lagoon	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/21/2018
16. AQUAVILLE, INC.	6/13/2018 SLR-2018-X-145	SCUBA Diving & Hydrobob Scooters	Saipan Lagoon	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/21/2018
17. James Davies dba Jungle Jim	6/13/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-150	Snorkeling	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/20/2018
18. Nury Corporation dba DIVEWISH	6/13/2018 SLR-2018-X-147	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/20/2018
19. YUMIKO N. BRUNDIDGE dba Naka's Dive Services	6/12/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-143	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/20/2018
20. Sydney Takahashi dba Fishguyz SCUBA	6/11/2018 SLR-2018-X-141	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Ship Wreck, Emily, & Cornado	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/20/2018
21. Open Knowledge Systems, Inc. dba Dive Fellows	6/7/2018 SLR-2018-X-134	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Laolao, & Obyan	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/20/2018
22. Aquatic Marine Co., Inc. dba Aquatic Marine Sports	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-155	Parasailing, Banana Boat, & Snorkeling	Outer Cover Marina Marine Sports	Motorized	Approved-6/20/2018
23. Aquatic Marine Co., Inc. dba Aquatic Marine Sports	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-154	Jet-ski (PWC)	Outer Cove Marina Marine Sports	Motorized	Approved-6/20/2018
24. JB Corporation	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-153	Snorkeling	Grotto, Wing, & Forbidden Island	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/19/2018
25. Li Yong Hong Corporation dba Cola Tour	6/14/2018 SLR-2018-X-159	Snorkeling	Laolao	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018
26. SPN-US CORPORATION dba Happy Snorkeling	6/13/2018 SLR-2018-X-151	Snorkeling	Grotto	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018
27. CHANGJIANG CORP. dba Eagle Marine Sports	6/12/2018 SLR-2018-X-144	Snorkeling	Obyan, Grotto, & Managaha	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018
28. Wang's Corporation	6/12/2018 SLR-2018-X-142	Snorkeling	Grotto & Managaha	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018
29. Korea Tourism, Inc. dba Koreana Tours Bureau	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-138	Snorkeling	Managaha	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018
30. Hana Tour Service, Inc. dba Saipan Hana Tour	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-137	Snorkeling	Managaha	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/18/2018

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
31. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-140	Banana Boat & Wakeboard	Fiesta Resort beach side	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/14/2018
32. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-139	Jet-ski (PWC) & Snorkeling	Fiesta Resort beach side	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/14/2018
33. CNS, Inc.	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-135	Jet-ski (PWC), kayak, Snorkeling, & Standup Paddle Board	Grandvrio Hotel beach side	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
34. OCEAN PLUS SAIPAN, INC. dba Ocean Plus Dive In Saipan	6/8/2018 SLR-2018-X-136	SCUBA Diving	Grotto & Laolao	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
35. Zheng Chen Corporation dba Wasai Diving	6/7/2018 SLR-2018-X-133	SCUBA Diving	Grotto, Laolao, & Obyan	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
36. HAFADAI OCEAN EDVENTURES, LLC	6/7/2018 SLR-2018-X-132	Sailing, Snorkeling, Standup Paddle Board, & Outrigger Canoe	Saipan Lagoon	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
37. SAIPAN CORAL REEF, INC.	6/7/2018 SLR-2018-X-131	SCUBA Diving	Tank beach	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
38. MARINE TECH (SAIPAN) dba S2 Club	6/7/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-130	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
39. Smartstar, Inc. dba Blue Bay Diving Club	6/7/2018 SLR-2018-X-129	SCUBA Diving & Snorkeling	All Saipan Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
40. Patricia Garcia Malakooti	6/6/2018 RSm-2018-X-0417	Pathway access to family beach	Cocomo beach, Songsong, Rota	Shoreline	Approved-6/14/2018
41. BIG EYE, LLC	6/6/2018 SLR-2018-X-128	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
42. SEVENTH SENSE INTERNATIONAL, INC. dba Dive Site With	6/5/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-126	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/15/2018
43. SAIPAN DIVE ACADEMY, INC.	6/5/2018 S/TLR-2018-X-125	SCUBA Diving	All Saipan & Tinian Dive Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
44. SL CAO CORPORATION dba MoMo Marine Sports	6/4/2018 SLR-2018-X-124	Snorkeling & Kayak	Grotto, Managaha, Obyan, Laolao, & Paupau	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
45. Macro Energy, Inc.	6/4/2018 SLR-2018-X-123	Snorkeling & SCUBA Diving	All Saipan Dives Sites	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/11/2018
46. KWON & BYUN CORP. dba Saipan Atty Dive	6/4/2018 SLR-2018-X-122	SCUBA Diving	Banzai, Wing, Grotto, Naftan Point, Obyan, Ice Cream, & HSK Family	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
47. SAIPAN SUNSET CRUISE, INC.	6/4/2018 SPI-2018-X-119	Drydock	North Seaplane Ramp, Lower Base	Ports & Industrial	Approved-6/13/2018
48. Windsurfing Saipan, Inc. dba Sea Wind Marine Sports	6/4/2018 SLR-2018-X-118	Windsurfing, Standup Paddle Boarding, Kayak, & Snorkeling	Hyatt Regency Hotel beach side	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
49. Auto Marine, Inc.	5/31/2018 SLR-2018-X-113	Parasailing, Banana Boat, & Seawalker	Saipan Lagoon	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/12/2018
50. Mark Arnold L. Santos dba Mac's Marine	5/31/2018 SLR-2018-X-112	Parasailing, Banana Boat, & Seawalker	Saipan Lagoon	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/12/2018
51. Asia Marine Sports	5/31/2018 SLR-2018-X-111	Banana Boat, Snorkeling, Aqua-Cycle Water Tikes, Rowing/Sculling, Kayaking, Standup Paddle Board, Windsurfing, Non-Motorized Kite Boarding, & SCUBA Diving	North of Grandvrio Hotel	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/12/2018
52. Island Marine Sports, INC.	5/31/2018 SLR-2018-X-110	Parasailing	Outer Cove Marina	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/12/2018
53. Crystal Star Corporation	5/30/2018 SLR-2018-X-107	Kayak, Standup Paddle Board, & Snorkeling	Paupau beach	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/8/2018
54. InterPacific Resorts Saipan Corporation dba Pacific Islands Club	5/30/2018 SLR-2018-X-106	Kayak, Windsurf Boards, Sailboats, Standup Paddle Board, & Snorkeling	PIC beach side	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/12/2018
55. ADVANCE MARINE SAIPAN CORPORATION	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-097	Parasailing	Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/8/2018
56. SAIPAN AQUA WORLD, INC.	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-094	Seawalker & Snorkeling	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/8/2018
57. Tao Tao Marianas dba Tao Tao Marine Sports	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-093	Parasailing	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
58. Tao Tao Marianas dba Tao Tao Marie Sports	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-092	Jet-ski (PWC)	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/14/2018
59. Tao Tao Marianas dba Tao Tao Marine Sports	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-091	Banana Boat	North of Grandvrio & Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018
60. SEAHORSE INC. SAIPAN	5/25/2018 SLR-2018-X-090	Banana Boat, Jet-ski (PWC), & Parasailing	North of Hyatt Regency Hotel & Managaha	Motorized Marine Sports	Approved-6/13/2018

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Business

Airlines ask US not to put migrant children on flights

DALLAS (AP)—American Airlines and United Airlines said Wednesday that they asked the Trump administration not to use their flights to carry migrant children who were separated from their parents by immigration authorities.

Facing growing opposition to his administration's recent policy of separating migrant families, President Donald Trump signed an order later in the day to keep families together at the nation's southern border.

The issue had galvanized flight attendants, some of whom took to social media to post accounts of seeing young passengers whom they believed to be migrants separated from their parents.

"We have no desire to be associated with separating families, or worse, to profit from it," American said in a statement.

United then issued a statement in which CEO Oscar Munoz said the company's purpose is to connect people. "This policy and its impact on thousands of children is in deep conflict with that mission and we want no part of it," he said.

Southwest, Frontier and Alaska also criticized the policy and asked not to be involved in transporting separated children.

A spokesman for the Homeland Security Department criticized the airlines in strong terms, accusing them of no longer wanting to help the agency protect the traveling public and reunite unaccompanied illegal immigrant children with their families.

"Despite being provided facts on this issue, these airlines clearly do not understand our immigration laws," the spokesman, Tyler Houlton, said in a statement. He accused the airlines of "buckling to a false media narrative."

Things shifted again when Trump signed an executive order to keep families together at the southern border, saying at the White House that he doesn't like the sight of children being separated from their families. But he added that the "zero tolerance" policy will continue.

Delta Air Lines, which had been notably silent most of the day, then issued a brief statement calling reports of families being separated "disheartening," and praising Trump's executive order.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

China says US swinging 'big stick' of unfair trade tactics

BEIJING (AP)—China has accused the United States of using pressure tactics and blackmail in threatening to impose tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars of Chinese imports. Commerce Ministry spokesman Gao Feng said Thursday the U.S. was damaging the global trading order and its methods would harm its own business interests as well as those of trading partners. Trump has ordered tariffs on $50 billion in Chinese goods in response to Beijing's forced transfer of U.S. technology and alleged intellectual property theft and threatened to impose duties on up to $400 billion more in Chinese goods. China matched the initial tariffs but hasn't yet imposed more on U.S. exports. Gao told reporters that China opposes the U.S. "act of extreme pressure and blackmail by swinging the big stick of trade protectionism."

Beer may lack fizz in Europe amid carbon dioxide shortage

LONDON (AP)—No beer at this time of year? A British trade group says there's a shortage of carbon dioxide in Northern Europe, sparking fears that drinks may lack fizz just as thirsty soccer fans fill pubs for the World Cup. Gavin Partington, director-general of the British Soft Drinks Association, says the shortage is due to the closure of several production sites for various reasons, including seasonal maintenance. But industry publication Gasworld says the situation is worse this year because normal maintenance has coincided with technical issues at chemical plants that also produce carbon dioxide. That shortage comes just as the World Cup is getting underway in Russia, driving up demand for beer and soft drinks. The British Beer and Pub Association predicts England fans will drink an extra 14 million pints during the group stages of the tournament, which last about two weeks. "We will continue to monitor the situation carefully," said Brigid Simmonds, the group's chief executive. "However, given the time of year and the World Cup, this situation has arisen at an unfortunate time for the brewing industry." The shortage could also affect meat producers, who may have trouble preserving some fresh foods.

FDA reconsiders added sugar label for maple syrup, honey

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)—The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is reconsidering its plan to require that pure maple syrup and honey be labeled as containing added sugars. Maple syrup producers had rallied against the plan, saying the nutrition labels updates were misleading, illogical and confusing and could hurt their industries. No sugar is added to pure maple syrup or honey. However, the FDA's update would have defined maple syrup as an added sugar, both when used as a sweetener in the processing of other foods and as a standalone product. The agency's goal was to update the Nutrition Facts label on products to educate consumers about the amount of added sugars in foods based on government dietary guidelines that recommend no more than 10 percent of daily calories come from added sugars. After receiving more than 3,000 comments on its draft plan, the FDA acknowledged that the labeling was confusing and that it would now come up with a revised approach for maple syrup and honey. "The feedback that FDA has received is that the approach laid out in the draft guidance does not provide the clarity that the FDA intended. It is important to FDA that consumers are able to effectively use the new Nutrition Facts label to make informed, healthy dietary choices. The agency looks forward to working with stakeholders to devise a sensible solution," the FDA said.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-011

GUALO RAI WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Gualo Rai Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; installation of gate valve assembly, PRV and PSV, flush hydrants, air release valves, fire hydrant assembly; existing lateral service tap relocation; restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-011, Gualo Rai Water Line Replacement Project",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 10, 2018,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 25, 2018** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater Associate Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-018

ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and leak repair on various types of waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **July 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-018: Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 5, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Nation

Trump orders halt to his family separation rule

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bowing to pressure from anxious allies, President Donald Trump abruptly reversed himself Wednesday and signed an executive order halting his administration's policy of separating children from their parents when they are detained illegally crossing the U.S. border.

It was a dramatic turnaround for Trump, who has been insisting, wrongly, that his administration had no choice but to separate families apprehended at the border because of federal law and a court decision.

The order does not end the "zero-tolerance" policy that criminally prosecutes all adults caught crossing the border illegally. But, at least for the next few weeks, it would keep families together while they are in custody, expedite their cases and ask the Defense Department to help house them. It also doesn't change anything yet for the some 2,300 children taken from their families since the policy was put into place.

The news in recent days has been dominated by searing images of children held in cages at border facilities, as well as audio recordings of young children crying for their parents—images that have sparked fury, questions of morality and concern from Republicans about a negative impact on their races in November's midterm elections.

Until Wednesday, the president, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and other officials had repeatedly argued the only way to end the practice was for Congress to pass new legislation, while Democrats said Trump could do it with his signature alone. That's just what he did.

"We're going to have strong, very strong borders, but we're going to keep the families together," said Trump, who added that he didn't like the "sight" or "feeling" of children separated from their parents.

Under a previous class-action settlement that set policies for the treatment and release of minors caught at the border, families can only be detained for 20 days. A senior Justice Department official said that hasn't changed.

"This is a stopgap measure," said Gene Hamilton, counsel to the attorney general. Justice lawyers were planning to file a challenge to the agreement, known as the Flores settlement, asking that a judge allow for the detention of families until criminal and removal proceedings are completed.

So Trump's order is likely to create a fresh set of problems and may well spark a new court fight. It's unclear what happens if no changes to law or the settlement take place by the time families reach the detainment deadline. The language also leaves room to separate children from parents if it's best for the child's welfare.

Trump

And it didn't do much for the teeming outrage over the issue. The Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center said the order didn't go nearly far enough.

"The administration still plans to criminalize families—including children—by holding them in prison-like detention facilities. There are workable alternatives," president Richard Cohen said in a statement.

It's also unclear what will happen to the children already separated. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said his department will start reuniting detained immigrant children with their parents—but he made no specific commitment on how quickly that can be accomplished. And officials said the cases of the children already separated and turned over to their custody would proceed as usual.

Trump's family apparently played a role in his turnaround.

A White House official said first lady Melania Trump had been making her opinion known to the president for some time that she felt he needed to do all he could to help families stay together, whether by working with Congress or acting on his own.

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
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Attorney for Petitioner/
Claimant Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JULIANA S. RUBEN, Deceased.	) CIVIL ACTION NO.: 06-0414) NOTICE OF HEARING ON AMENDED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; and) NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE JULIANA S. RUBEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner/Claimant, **Marianas Public Land Trust**, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the **Estate of Juliana S. Ruben, Decedent.** The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Amended Petition for Letters of Administration by **Petitioner/Claimant Marianas Public Land Trust** is scheduled to be heard on **Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the Decedent or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of you claim should also be sent to **ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2018.

/s/ Clerk ofCourt
Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff, Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH O. TAITANO and DEBORAH DLG. TAITANO, Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 16-0154** **NOTICE OF AUCTION ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 18th day of May, 2018, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **10th day of August, 2018 at 10 a.m.,** at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being in As Lito on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 361-2-2.

Lot 361-2-2 (formerly part of Lot 361, TD 122), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2031/01, the original of which was recorded 02 March 2004 as Document No. 04-457 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) to reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758 CK Saipan, MP 96950 or Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 06th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: April 26, 2018 & May 11, 2018

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
A. Casino Licensee (IPI) Updates:
1. Construction Progress – Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel (Imperial Palace)
2. IPI Personnel – Resident Employment Objectives & CLA Annual Plan
3. Responsible Gaming Program
4. Compliance Committee
5. Other Miscellaneous Matters

B. Other Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS:
A. House Bill 20-82, HD1: Update

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Approval of Regular Casino Key Employee License (2-years):
** Wong, Kin Ming ("Timon") – IPI Director of Projects & Facility Management*

B. Approval for Regular Casino Vendor License (2-years):
1. Carrier Guam, Inc. Air-conditioning Equipment. Provisional License Expiration ("PLE") Date: 9/17/18
2. D.K.K. Inc., (dba: D.K.K. Construction Liquefied Petroleum Gas Services): PLE: 8/01/18
3. Guangdong Development Co., Ltd. Wholesale & Retail Construction Materials: PLE: 7/15/18
4. Lasvit Incorporated: Installation of Art Light Fixtures. PLE: 7/12/18
5. MizziSoft Pty. Ltd. Workforce Management Software: PLE: 6/25/18
6. USA Fanter Corp., Ltd. General Construction Contractor. PLE: 8/01/18
7. Xerox Corporation. Printing Machines, Papers, & Tech Support. PLE: 7/21/18

C. Notification of Provisional Casino Vendor License:
1. Firmstone Building Materials Ltd. Supplier of Bldg Materials. Issued: 6/6/18 Exp.: 6/5/19
2. Union Victory Technologies Ltd. Supplier of Kitchen Equipment Etc. Issued: 5/24/18 Exp. 5/23/19
3. Yantze Corporation. Marina Management Services. Issued 6/14/18 Exp. 6/13/19

D. Non-Gaming Vendors Request for Application Withdrawal.
Casino Regulations – Section 175-10-1-425 Withdrawal:
1. Coffman Engineers, Inc. Engineering Consultancy. Provisional License Exp. Date: 4/30/18
2. D&W Enterprises, Inc. Supplier of Petroleum (diesel) Products. PLE: 9/27/18.
3. Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc., (MarPac). Distributor of Alcoholic Beverages & Other related products. Provisional License Expiration Date: 9/25/18.

E. Consideration and Adoption of:
1. Order 2018-002: Designating IPI's In-House Legal Counsels and other positions as Casino Key Employees pursuant to Casino Regulation §175-10.1-040 (q).

F. Adoption for Publication for Public Comment – Amendment to the Casino Regulations: Addition of subsection (b) to §175.10.1-570 to require filing with CCC of a Currency Payment Form when the casino licensee receives money outside of the United States.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. IPI Financial Matters
B. Report by the CCC Audit Division
C. Report by the Legal Counsel

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary.

/s/ Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, F0197
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SIRENA PEREZ CASSIDY, F0338
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE, SUITE 200
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8869/69
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Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANKS (GUAM), INC., Plaintiff, vs. JESUS T. LIZAMA dba VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., and the BANK OF GUAM, Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 00-0296 D (THIRD AMENDED) NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Amended Judgment made and entered in the above titled action on 30th day of January, 2001, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC. ("ANZ"), in the above titled action from Defendants JESUS T. LIZAMA DBA VICTORIA HOTEL AND J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property filed on February 13, 2013, pursuant to 7 CMC § 4537(e) the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **20th day of July, 2018 at 10 a.m.,** at Victoria Hotel, located on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

PARCELS 1 & 2:
a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.
b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

And immediately thereafter, the sale of the following parcel of property:

PARCEL 3:
c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. All the property listed in this notice shall be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction, without any warranty being given, express or implied, with respect to the title, possession, and encumbrances, to satisfy the amount due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC. on the date of the sale under the Amended Judgment as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property. ANZ GUAM, INC. reserves the right to bid all or part of the amount due at the time of the sale.

3. Payment. A deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by the successful bidder. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 20% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff, ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC.

4. Inspection. Interested bidders may inspect the property at the following times:
Parcels 1 & 2: June 22, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
Parcel 3: June 29, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Change of Terms. ANZ GUAM, INC., reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

6. No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 12th day of June, 2018.

/S/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Asia

N. Korean summits bring sense of PEACE ALONG DMZ BORDER

AP

North Korean Army Lt. Colonel Hwang Myong Jin stands inside the museum of the armistice agreement between North and South Korea at the truce village at the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) which separates the two Koreas in Panmunjom, North Korea, Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

PANMUNJOM, North Korea (AP)—Lt. Col. Hwang Myong Jin has been a guide on the northern side of the Demilitarized Zone that divides the two Koreas for five years. He says it's gotten quieter here since the summits between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and the presidents of South Korea and the United States, in perhaps the last place on earth where the Cold War still burns hot.

"A lot of things have changed. Listen to how quiet it is," he said as he stood on the balcony of a large building overlooking the blue and white barracks and concrete demarcation line that mark the boundary between North and South.

"The South used to blast psychological warfare propaganda at us," he said. "But since the summits, they have stopped. Now there is a peaceful atmosphere here."

Indeed, all is quiet — deceptively so — in the DMZ these days.

On Wednesday, as Kim Jong Un was in Beijing for his third summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping, the northern part of the zone was buzzing with busloads of Chinese tourists taking selfies and eating ice cream cones outside the surprisingly well-stocked souvenir shop near the DMZ entrance.

A group of ethnic Korean high school students from Japan filed out of their tour bus as North Korean People's Army soldiers watched disinterestedly with automatic rifles slung over their shoulders.

Inside the souvenir shop, still more tourists, from Europe, looked over hand-painted propaganda posters. American tourists are still banned from visiting North Korea under an order issued last year by President Donald Trump that restricts all non-essential travel.

Though the DMZ has taken on something of a tourist trap atmosphere over the years — the South side is also a popular tourist destination and also has its share of kitschy souvenirs — Lt. Col. Hwang stressed that it remains first and foremost a military site.

"It's not that we want tourists to come, but people want to see," he said. "There are dangers."

The dangers are, in fact, all around the DMZ, though they are invisible to the throngs of day-tripping tourists.

While world attention tends to focus on the North's development of nuclear weapons, North Korea has for decades stationed most of its conventional fire near its border with the South. South Korea's capital, Seoul, is only about 80 kilometers (50 miles) away from the DMZ and would be vulnerable to heavy artillery, and possibly chemical shells. Such an attack could cause hundreds of thousands of casualties.

Getting North Korea to agree to move at least some of its big guns away from the border will likely be a key topic of negotiations in the months ahead, particularly now that the U.S. and South Korea have agreed to halt their next set of annual war games, which never fail to outrage the North and heighten tensions on the peninsula.

Hwang generally follows a strongly patriotic and unapologetic script as he shows visitors around the usual spots — the building where the armistice that ended the 1950-53 Korean War was signed, a giant stone engraved with North Korean founder Kim Il Sung's last words, various other spots where talks took place. He still stays strongly on message — his job is to get the North's position across to the tourists, even if they aren't especially interested in listening.

But he also pointed out a tree planted by Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in when they held their first summit here in April, and the pavilion where Kim hosted Moon when he came to the North's side last month. And when speaking to an American journalist, Hwang also seemed a tad less belligerent — or perhaps just a bit more relaxed — on Wednesday.

"War only brings disaster to our people. Nobody wants a war," he said. "We held military talks with the South here, too. The talks are moving in the direction of what humanity wants. That's peace. That's a positive thing."

Divers search Indonesian lake for 192 missing after sinking

TIGARAS, Indonesia (AP)—Distraught relatives slammed Indonesia's government for not enforcing basic safety measures on passenger boats and pleaded Wednesday for a bigger search effort for more than 190 people presumed drowned after a ferry sank on a picturesque Sumatran lake early this week.

The wooden vessel, overcrowded with passengers as well as dozens of motorbikes, didn't have a manifest and disaster officials have several times raised the number of people it was carrying as family members who rushed to Lake Toba in northern Sumatra provided information.

The boat was five times over its passenger capacity of 43 and equipped with only 45 life jackets, Transport Minister Budi Karya Sumadi and National Search and Rescue Agency chief Muhammad Syaugi told a news conference. The latest information is that 192 people are missing, Syaugi said.

Only 18 survivors have been found—in bad weather within hours of the sinking Monday evening, which according to Syaugi occurred in waters at least 300 meters (984 feet) deep but only half a kilometer (0.3 mile) from an island that's popular with visitors to the lake.

It's possible many of the victims were still inside the sunken ferry, said North Sumatra province police chief Paulus Waterpau.

"Many survivors told authorities that less than half of them had jumped into the water before the boat sank," he told The Associated Press.

Suwarni, whose 20-year-old son and his girlfriend were on the ferry, criticized the search and rescue operation as slow and insufficient.

"Millions of questions keep me from sleeping," said Suwarni, who uses one name, between desperate sobs.

"What kind of government is this that can't protect their own people from unnecessary accidents? And after the accident they're not able to find the victims," she said. "I beg help to everyone to quickly find my son and his girlfriend, even if their remains, please find my son, return him to me."

India takes direct control in Kashmir after alliance ends

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—India's federal government took direct control of Kashmir state Wednesday after the ruling Hindu nationalist party ended its long-troubled alliance there with a Kashmiri political party.

The shift to direct rule in the disputed region was approved after the Bharatiya Janata Party withdrew its support Tuesday for the People's Democratic Party, following years of feuding and a deteriorating security situation. The BJP also heads the central government, and officials say Prime Minister Narendra Modi was involved in the decision to withdraw from the coalition.

Political decisions will now be made by the government in New Delhi, though day-to-day life is unlikely to change significantly for the people of Kashmir.

State elections are scheduled for 2020, but a vote could be called before then.

The coalition government was formed in 2015 after extended and difficult negotiations, since the two parties hold diametrically opposed views on many major issues, including the law that exempts Indian military personnel from criminal prosecution in the violence-wracked Himalayan region. The People's Democratic Party wants the draconian law scrapped. The BJP supports it. The BJP has consistently advocated a tough government approach in Kashmir while the People's Democratic Party favors reconciliation and dialogue.

The coalition marked the first time that the Hindu nationalist BJP held a leadership position in the Muslim-majority region.

Mehbooba Mufti, the president of the People's Democratic Party and the state's top official, resigned after the BJP withdrew its support, paving the way for direct rule.

She told reporters that the alliance had been cobbled together "although this was against the sentiments of the people."

"Our aim was reconciliation and dialogue," she said, adding that politicians had hoped the alliance with Modi's party would "help in bringing out the state from its situation of turmoil."

World

Legal pot will roll out differently in Canada than in US

By GENE JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

With marijuana legalization across Canada on the horizon, the industry is shaping up to look different from the way it does in nine U.S. states that have legalized adult recreational use of the drug. Age limits, government involvement in distribution and sales, and access to banking are some big discrepancies.

And yes, Canadians will be able to order cannabis online and have it delivered through the mail — something that's illegal in the United States.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Wednesday that marijuana will be legal nationwide on Oct. 17. In the meantime, Canada's provinces and cities are working out issues concerning how cannabis will be regulated.

Here's what to expect:

GOVERNMENT-RUN STORES

It's up to the provinces and territories to determine how to handle distribution, and they're taking a variety of approaches.

Ontario plans to open up to 150 stores run by its Liquor Control Board—a model of public ownership that is unusual in the U.S. The tiny Washington state town of North Bonneville has one city-owned pot shop.

British Columbia is planning for a mix of public and privately owned stores, while Newfoundland and Saskatchewan will have only private pot shops. In some remote areas where stand-alone marijuana stores might not be economically feasible, including in the Northwest Territories, cannabis could be sold at existing liquor stores.

Just like U.S. states with legal pot, the provinces also differ on home-growing, with many allowing up to four plants and others, including Quebec, barring it.

And rather than a minimum age of 21, as U.S. states have set, Canada's federal minimum age to use marijuana will be 18, with most provinces adding an additional year.

The varying approaches make the provinces something of a laboratory for determining the best ways to legalize, said Matt Gray, founder and chief executive of Herb, a Toronto-based news and social media platform for the pot industry.

"It's this amazing case study for countries globally to see the amazing benefits that legalizing cannabis can have on things like the economy, eradicating the black market and getting cannabis out of the hands of minors," he said.

PRICING AND TAXES

Whether run by the government or private entities, the stores will obtain their marijuana from federally licensed growers. Officials also will set a minimum price.

Canada's finance ministers have pegged it at about $10 per gram, but the Yukon minister in charge of marijuana says the government hopes to displace more of the illegal market by setting the base at $8.

The government wants to tax legal marijuana at either $1 per gram or one-tenth of a product's price, whichever is greater, plus federal and provincial sales taxes. It's likely to be less than the taxes imposed in the states.

Washington state's tax rate is 37 percent, plus state and local sales taxes. In California, licensed pot businesses are blaming total tax rates that can approach 50 percent for driving people back into the black market.

The Canadian government agreed to give provinces and territories 75 percent of the tax revenue.

BANKING

Canada's cannabis businesses have a massive advantage over their American counterparts: access to banks.

Because the drug is still illegal under U.S. law, major banks have been loath to do business with the industry, even in legal marijuana states.

U.S. Treasury Department data show a slow increase in the number of banks and credit unions maintaining accounts for marijuana businesses, with 411 reporting such accounts last spring.

But many of those institutions don't provide full-service banking, making it tough for businesses to get loans.

"The major Canadian banks were slow to warm to this," said Chris Barry, a Seattle-based marijuana business attorney who handles industry transactions in both countries for the law firm Dorsey and Whitney.

He said smaller independent banks, investment banks and brokerage firms got the work started.

"That has pretty much dissolved as a problem," Barry said. "The majors are coming around to participate in the market."

THE PRODUCTS

Some consumers are disappointed that store shelves will only stock dried flower, oils and seeds when sales begin — no edibles. The government has said it needs about another year to develop regulations for edibles.

There's also a labeling issue: Health Canada has dictated large warning labels on otherwise plain packages, with strict restrictions on font sizes, styles and colors. The idea is to discourage misuse and to avoid appealing to youths, but it also leaves very little room for company logos or branding.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-BOP-112

SUBMISSION: JULY 02, 2018 TIME: 9:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) USED CLASS "I" SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE FOR THE CNMI BOARD OF PAROLE

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ NICK M. REYES
CHIEF PAROLE OFFICER

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Eugene Nepthali D. Magsalin
PMB 384 Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950
670-898-7084

Pro Se,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

EUGENE NEPTHALI D. MAGSALIN Petitioner -vs- AMELIA O. BRANUELO MAGSALIN, Respondent,) FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0017) SUMMONS

To: Respondent, Amelia O. Bartnuelo-Magsalin

YOUR ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after the service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Eugene Nepthali D. Magsalin, whose address is PMB 384, Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 16th day of December, 2017.

/ s/ Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. GEORGE R. RABAULIMAN, Defendant.) Civil Action No. 16-0222) NOTICE OF HEARING ON PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 16, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be heard before Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

So dated this 13th day of June, 2018.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP18-DCCA/CCDF-111

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"AFTERSCHOOL –SCHOOL AGE CARE WORKSHOP/TRAINING MATERIALS AND MODULES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE, BUILDING 1347, ASCENCION COURT IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON **JULY 06, 2018 AT 09:30 A.M.**
QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MS. MARIBEL LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR VIA EMAIL TO **ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com OR** VIA FACSIMILE TO **(670) 664-2547**, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 03, 2018**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Board of Trustees
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9911, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation hereby gives notice that a Special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. in the CEO's Conference Room 3 located at the Administrative Offices (new wing).

CHCC Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Monday, June 25, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of the Agenda
IV. Review and Adopt Resolution for Marianas Public Land Trust
V. Adjournment

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NOTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM of the CNMI'S DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: June 22, 2018

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resource Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency determination request from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding a proposed amendment to the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) of the Mariana Archipelago. The amendment would re-classify a number of current management unit species (MUS) to ecosystem component species (ECS). ECS are used to track and achieve management objectives, but unlike MUS, they do not require targeted conservation and management. More information on the proposed action can be found on the DCRM website at https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/permitting/federal-consistency/.

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a coastal state's federally-approved coastal management plan. Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's coastal management program can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resource Management at FedCon@dcrm.gov.mp.

This public notice has been published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. DCRM is soliciting public comments for fifteen (15) days, starting on June 22, 2018 and ending on July 6, 2018. We thank you for your input.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Mortuary must pay widow $50K for 'coerced' cremation

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP)—A Montana mortuary business must pay a woman $50,000 after her husband was cremated against his wishes. The Great Falls Tribune reports a jury found a mortician at Miser Mortuaries in Conrad negligent in the decision to cremate 64-year-old Robert Yeager of Ulm after he died of liver and heart disease in October 2012. Enid Yeager told jurors that mortuary staff pushed her toward cremation because the larger casket needed to bury her husband would be costly. Miser's attorneys said mortician John Nash simply recommended Robert Yeager be cremated because he couldn't have an open casket funeral due to the swollen condition of his body. Nash said Enid Yeager signed off on having him cremated. Jurors on Wednesday found both the mortuary and Enid Yeager partially liable. She had sought $1 million in damages.

Police: Thief tried paying waitress with her own stolen card

PINE BLUFF, Ark. (AP)—Authorities say an Arkansas thief got his just deserts when he tried to pay for a meal using the waitress' stolen credit card. Police spokesman Lt. David De Foor said in a news release that officers arrested 21-year-old Shamon West on Tuesday at Shannon's Restaurant in Pine Bluff. He says that "having no desire to pay for the fellow's meal," waitress Flora Lunsford called to report that the man had tried paying for his meal with her stolen credit card. De Foor says officers found other items on West that had been in Lunsford's purse when it was stolen from her car Sunday at a nearby gas station while she was inside, including her Social Security card and driver's license. West is being held at the Jefferson County jail in lieu of $2,840 bond on forgery and theft by receiving charges. Jail records don't list an attorney.

Signs seeking return of heirloom: 'My mother will kill me'

MEDFORD, Mass. (AP)—A recent college graduate desperate to recover a family heirloom mistakenly left curbside when he moved out of his apartment is plastering his neighborhood with signs warning, "My mother will kill me." Colin Trimmer is offering a reward for the return of his great-grandmother's iron and brass bed frame, given to him by his mother when he moved into his apartment near Tufts University. The bed frame was left curbside last month by new tenants of the apartment, who mistakenly thought Trimmer had already moved out and it was trash. Trimmer's mother, Carol Kazmer, tells the Boston Globe the bed frame was one of the few items her grandmother had to leave to her 17 grandchildren. She says the bed frame is "just a thing," but she'd like it back and the reward would be "sizable."

Spraying snake with gas leads to house blaze in Finland

HELSINKI (AP)—An improvised method of getting rid of a snake in a garden by spraying it with gasoline kicked off a chain reaction that ended up with a house on fire in southern Finland. Finnish public broadcaster YLE reported Tuesday that some of the flammable liquid spread by an ill-fated homeowner in Siuntio, west of Helsinki, landed on a nearby lawnmower that was warm enough to ignite a fire. Flames spread quickly Monday in extremely dry conditions to the wooden house, reaching the exterior wall and attic. The broadcaster said firefighters extinguished the blaze but damages may reach 15,000 euros ($17,000), although the home's interior was not affected. YLE didn't identify the reptile, but venomous adders, smooth snakes and grass snakes are the most common types of snakes in Finland.

Tests confirm mystery animal shot in Montana was a wolf

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—The mystery is over: Wildlife officials have confirmed that an unusual-looking animal shot in central Montana was a gray wolf. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks officials initially weren't certain what the creature was when a rancher shot it in May. They noted the legs, front claws and canine teeth were shorter and its ears were bigger than normally seen on wolves. The agency said Monday that an inspection of the animal at its laboratory revealed it to be a relatively normal-looking wolf. DNA tests confirmed that it was a gray wolf. Officials say the wolf was a 2- or 3-year-old female with unique physical features. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service geneticist Mary Curtis says it's not unusual for there to be physical variations of animals within a species.

Trucks collision in Arkansas causes fire and spills Fireball

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—Add Fireball to the menu served up by Arkansas roads. Two tractor-trailers collided Thursday on Interstate 40 in central Arkansas, causing one to spill hundreds of mini-bottles of the cinnamon-flavored whiskey on the highway. Over the past year, Arkansas drivers have endured a veritable feast spilled on their roadways. Trucks carrying bourbon, frozen pizzas, pasta sauce and gin have all dumped their wares on the asphalt. State Department of Transportation spokesman Danny Straessle says investigators are still looking into the cause of Thursday's wreck, which caused major delays in both directions for a few hours. He says one truck's cab caught fire and at least one person was treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Vows in the air: German couple married in tightrope wedding

BERLIN (AP)—A couple in eastern Germany have gotten married in a swing dangling from a motorcycle atop a tightrope, 14 meters (46 feet) above the ground. The German news agency dpa reported that a pastor standing in a cage atop a fire service ladder presided over the wedding of Nicole Backhaus and Jens Knorr in the town of Stassfurt on Saturday. The couple exchanged rings in the air but, for safety's sake, waited until they were back on the ground to kiss. More than 3,000 people watched the wedding in the sky, which took place during a local festival. The tightrope was stretched between the town wall and a tower, and the motorbike was ridden by Falko Traber, a member of a family of artists.

Woodchucks to blame for missing veterans' flags

ADAMS, Mass. (AP)—Authorities say furry critters, not vandals, are likely to blame for American flags that disappeared from veterans' graves in Massachusetts. The flags at Bellevue Cemetery, in Adams, were first reported missing earlier this month. Residents volunteered to replace the flags by hand, but then those went missing, too. Police were called to investigate, and Chief Richard Tarsa told The Boston Globe on Monday that officers found evidence that a woodchuck is likely using the flags in its burrow. Tarsa says a similar incident happened in New York in 2012, where police linked a woodchuck to about 75 flags that disappeared from Cedar Park Cemetery. He says about 12 to 18 flags were damaged in Adams. Police say they still plan to keep an eye on the cemetery.

Science & Technology

Alexa, can I trust you?

In this June 14, 2018, photo, Gareth Gaston, Executive Vice President and Head of Omnichannel Banking at US Bank, discusses voice assistant banking with a mobile phone, an Amazon Echo, center, and a Google Home, right, in New York. AP

NEW YORK (AP)—Hey Alexa, what's my bank account balance?

Big banks and financial companies have started to offer banking through virtual assistants—Amazon's Alexa, Apple's Siri, and Google's Assistant—in a way that will allow customers to check their balances, pay bills and, in the near future, send money just with their voice. And with the rapid adoption of Zelle, a bank-to-bank transfer system, it soon could be possible to send money to friends or family instantly with voice commands.

But the potential to do such sensitive tasks through a smart speaker raises security concerns. Virtual assistants and smart speakers are still relatively new technologies, and potentially susceptible to being exploited by cyber criminals.

Regional banking giant U.S. Bank is the first bank to be on all three services—Alexa, Siri and Assistant. The company did a soft launch of its Siri and Assistant services in early March and this month started marketing the option to customers.

Other financial companies have set up virtual assistant features. Credit card companies Capital One and American Express both have Alexa skills that allow customers to check their balances and pay bills. There are other smaller banks and credit unions that have set up Google Assistant or Alexa as well.

"We want to be there for our customers in any possible way that we can," said Gareth Gaston, executive vice president for omnichannel banking at U.S. Bank.

For now, U.S. Bank is keeping the features available through bank-by-voice fairly restrictive. Customers will be able to check bank balances, pay U.S. Bank credit cards and mortgages, ask Alexa or Google the due dates on bills, and other basic functions. Money cannot be transferred from a U.S. Bank account using voice yet, Gaston said, but the bank is considering the option.

How to avoid browser hijacking

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Q: I read that I could get better protection against hackers by switching to an independent internet connection service, such as Google Public DNS, Cloudflare or Quad9. What do you think?

A: There are some security benefits, but they fall short of what's needed.

The hacking you refer to (called DNS hijacking) redirects your web browser to a malicious website. The companies you mention offer some protection against that type of hacking when it's directed at internet servers, but no protection if it's aimed at your home computer or router. Unfortunately, home attacks are the biggest threat.

Your personal security is at stake. Hackers would like to redirect your browser to a malicious website that looks just like the one you are trying to reach. There they can show you advertising, steal your personal information or download malicious software to your computer.

This redirection is accomplished by DNS hijacking, which tampers with the Domain Name System, the internet equivalent of a phone directory. This directory comes into play whenever you type a name such as Amazon.com, Google.com or Yahoo.com into your browser. The directory matches a name to the string of numbers that is the website's real address, then connects you with that site. If that directory is hacked, your browser might not be taken to Amazon, Google or Yahoo, but to malicious imitation websites.

But here's the key part. This DNS directory exists on virtually every computer between you and the website you want to reach—yours, your router and many internet servers. If a hacker can tamper with the directory anywhere in that chain, your browser can be redirected.

The companies you mention are called DNS providers, and they offer an alternative pathway to the internet that takes the place of one your internet service provider operates. They claim (and this is impossible to verify) that by using their network, you will be more protected from DNS hijacking on the internet.

But protection from DNS hijacking on the internet won't protect you from attacks on your home computer or router. Those attacks misdirect your browser before the data even leaves your home.

Your best home defense is to have good antivirus software installed on your computer, and to protect your router by changing the password that was put on it at the factory—hackers know all the factory passwords. (To learn more, see tinyurl.com/y8o2spcg).

Life & Style

AP
This image released by Disney Pixar shows characters Bob/Mr. Incredible, voiced by Craig T. Nelson, left, and Jack Jack in "Incredibles 2."

Jack-Jack, the summer's breakout star

NEW YORK (AP)—The breakout star of the summer moviegoing season isn't a dinosaur, an Avenger or anyone aboard the Millennium Falcon. It's a giggling pipsqueak in diapers.

"The Incredibles 2," which last weekend set a new box-office record for animated films with $182.7 million in ticket sales, has been a coming out party for Jack-Jack, the seemingly all-powerful baby of the Parr family. Jack's superhero powers were teased in 2004's original, but, they were, crucially, kept out of view from his family members.

"The Incredibles 2," though, is a runaway-train of Jack-Jack revelations. Just as infants half-consciously babble and wobble as they feel out their abilities, Jack-Jack's unknowingly careens through his Swiss Army Knife of superpowers. A sneeze rockets him through the roof. Anger turns him into a purple devil. His crib can be escaped by simply walking through the bars. (Those are just some of his powers. Estimates run as high as 17.)

The New York Times called him "the burbling, gurgling cherry on this confection." The Wall Street Journal hypothesized that Jack-Jack could be "as valuable a commodity for (Disney's Pixar) as the Minions who stole the show in Universal's 'Despicable Me.'"

Jack-Jack fever has struck. And that's been especially enjoyable for the real-life Jack-Jack, who was just a toddler when the first "Incredibles" was hitting theaters. Pixar animator Tony Fucile, who supervised animation and designed the characters for both "Incredibles" movies, used recordings of his infant son, Eli, to craft Jack-Jack's voice.

Eli Fucile, now 16, is in the strange position of starring in one of the year's biggest movies, while being unable to recall ever participating in it.

"I didn't really understand it when I was younger. But as time went by, I realized: 'Wow, I was actually in a pretty good movie,'" said Eli in his first interview. "It's been nice to see all the feedback. I guess everyone loves Jack-Jack."

Eli was 10-months old when his father, a regular collaborator with "Incredibles" director Brad Bird, was animating the first film. Tony's newborn son, also gifted with an especially spherical head, resembled the baby they were in the midst of creating.

"We actually designed the character first and then the actual being came into existence," said Tony. "I was talking to Brad and I said, 'You know, Eli's been doing some wacky sounds. It's this sort of pre-verbal jag he goes on. He'll wake up and he just goes. It's laughter and sort of all over the place. Kind of like Stromboli (of 'Pinocchio')."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Ariana Grande, Pete Davidson are engaged

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's true, Pete Davidson says: He and Ariana Grande are engaged. The "Saturday Night Live" cast member confirmed their rumored engagement to Jimmy Fallon on NBC's "Tonight Show." Fallon put Davidson on the spot Wednesday, telling him he didn't have to get engaged to the pop star to come on the talk show. Replied Davidson: "But I did, though." When Fallon congratulated him and shook his hand, Davidson said he felt like he'd won a contest. He's getting nods of approval on the street from other men, the comedian said, with one telling him, "Whoa, man, you gave me hope." Robert Pattinson also was on the show, smiling as the host and Davidson bantered. Grande and Davidson reportedly began dating in May after Grande's breakup with Mac Miller. Davidson and girlfriend Cazzie David also split around the same time. NBC released a pre-air clip of the "Tonight Show" exchange between Davidson and Fallon.

Apple signs deal with Sesame Workshop for kids' shows

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Apple is getting into business with the prestigious Sesame Workshop. Apple said Wednesday it has given a multiple-series order to the nonprofit organization. The shows will be part of a slate of children's programming for Apple's upcoming streaming service. Apple said the long-running "Sesame Street" program, which airs on PBS and HBO, isn't part of the agreement. Apple has been making content deals with other big names, including Oprah Winfrey, as it prepares to compete with Netflix, Amazon and other streaming services.

Eva Longoria gives birth to first child, a son

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Eva Longoria is a mom. The actress and husband Jose "Pepe" Baston welcomed Santiago Enrique Baston into the world on Tuesday. They say they are so grateful "for this beautiful blessing." The couple shared the child's first picture with the magazine Hola! USA . The baby, wearing a hospital cap, is shown resting on his mother's chest. Longoria's representatives confirmed the birth Wednesday. During her pregnancy, the 43-year-old Longoria supported the Time's Up movement and received her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. She also attended the premier of her movie "Overboard." Her husband has three children from a previous marriage.

Halsey added to Billboard Hot 100 Music Festival lineup

NEW YORK (AP)—Pop singer Halsey has been added as a headliner to the 2018 Billboard Hot 100 Music Festival. The two-day event takes place Aug. 18-19 at Northwell Health at Jones Beach Theater in Long Island, New York. Hip-hop duo Rae Sremmurd and Halsey will headline the first day of the festival, where other performers include Cheat Codes, Kehlani, Lil Xan, Taylor Bennett and Gnash. Rapper-singer Future and DJ Snake will headline day two, which also includes French Montana, Machine Gun Kelly, Daya, Justine Skye, Sabrina Carpenter and Jacquees. Two-day passes, ranging from $80 to $275, are on sale. Single-day tickets go on sale June 29. The Billboard Hot 100 Music Festival is in its fourth year.

Girlfriend sees trouble ahead with man's plans for mother

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman, 34, who has finally met the man I want to spend my life with. He's 31, and his family lives about six hours away. He plans to move his mother here to live in the near future. She doesn't work or drive. She's on state assistance, and her Section 8 isn't enough for her to get an apartment on her own here.

My boyfriend plans to buy a duplex in the next year or so and have her live in the other apartment. This would involve me paying for part of the house because we'll likely be married by then. The problem is, the state won't give us any money for her to live in it, so we'll have to cover all her expenses. On top of that, I'm not comfortable with the lack of privacy.

I have tried bringing this up to him, and although he has been receptive, I haven't been as straightforward as I should have been. I know it's a touchy subject, and I'm not sure how to approach this. I don't want to lose him, but I'm afraid this will affect our lives too much. Help!

THINGS DON'T LOOK BRIGHT

DEAR THINGS: You admit you haven't been as straightforward as you should have been with your boyfriend. In a case like this, honesty is the best policy. I urge you to start telling him exactly how you feel NOW, because your concerns are valid. His mother will be depending upon her son—and you —for everything when she relocates. If you aren't up to sharing the responsibility—in addition to the loss of "personal space"—he needs to know now. And if it spells the end of the romance, so be it.

DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor who stops by several times a week unannounced and uninvited. What complicates the matter is that he has some form of mental disability. He's in his 20s and lives with his mother a block away from us. We tolerated his presence when he used to stop by only occasionally, but since meeting my 24-year-old daughter who is staying with us, his visits have increased to about five times a week.

When he comes over, he can be very demanding and rude. For example, if someone is sitting in "his seat," he assertively tells them they must get up. Other times he'll interrupt my daughter to tell her to come watch TV with him or sit next to him. In response, she tells him, "No, thank you."

We don't want to be rude, but his visits are making everyone uncomfortable and have become an issue of boundaries. How do we tell him and his mother we would like him to stop coming over?

UNWELCOME NEIGHBOR IN FLORIDA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR NEIGHBOR: That young man is lonely, but it should not be your responsibility to entertain him. Tell his mother exactly what you have written to me. It should be up to her to tell her son to stop dropping over. Depending upon how disabled he is, he should be working or in a program where he can do something constructive with his time.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WHATCHA DOIN', DAD? PAINTING A PICTURE?
YEP.
WHAT'S THAT THING? A BRONTOSAURUS WITH RABIES?
IT'S THAT ISLAND OVER THERE.
OH.
HOW FAR CAN YOU SEE WITHOUT YOUR GLASSES? CAN YOU SEE ME?
WHEN I LOOK UP, I'D BETTER NOT BE ABLE TO.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

AAAAA!! LORD BUMPYBOTTOM IS MISSING!!
UH-OH. HOPPED OUT, DID HE?
EW! EW! EW!
AS HIS PERSONAL VALET, YOU NEED TO FIND HIM BEFORE HE... BEFORE HE...
HOPS ON YOU? TOUCHES YOUR FEET?
GAAAAAH!! I'LL BE IN MY PANIC CLOSET TILL THIS IS SORTED.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Of course"
4 Worry
8 Radiate
12 Hosp. area
13 Apollo's instrument
14 Verdi opera
15 Doorway curtain
17 Fibbed
18 Bigwigs
19 Aplomb
20 Loses traction
22 Go sightseeing
24 "— Only Just Begun"
25 Foreshadows
29 Year in Mexico
30 Thesaurus compiler
31 Onassis nickname
32 Part of Iberia
34 FBI guy
35 Book after Joel
36 Airs for pairs
37 Overcharge for tickets
40 Prejudice
41 Ankara resident
42 Painting of a person
46 Desire
47 Opposite of "sans"
48 Neb. neighbor
49 "To — not ..."
50 Calc. or trig
51 Tolkien creature

DOWN

1 Shrill bark
2 Author Umberto
3 One who withstands adversity
4 Somersaults
5 Deli loaves
6 Mess up
7 Casual shirt
8 Aplenty
9 Ovid's 53
10 Rhyming tributes
11 Test the waters
16 Ocean motion
19 Golf stroke
20 Trade
21 Vegas game
22 Roman robes
23 Pitcher Hershiser
25 Comic strip possum
26 Junior, usually
27 "Phooey!"
28 Deadly septet
30 Posterior
33 Chatterbox
34 — gum (thickener)
36 Discard
37 Ticket half
38 Heal
39 Jason's ship
40 Author Harte
42 Actress Dawber
43 Lab eggs
44 Author Fleming
45 Potent stick

Solution time: 25 mins.

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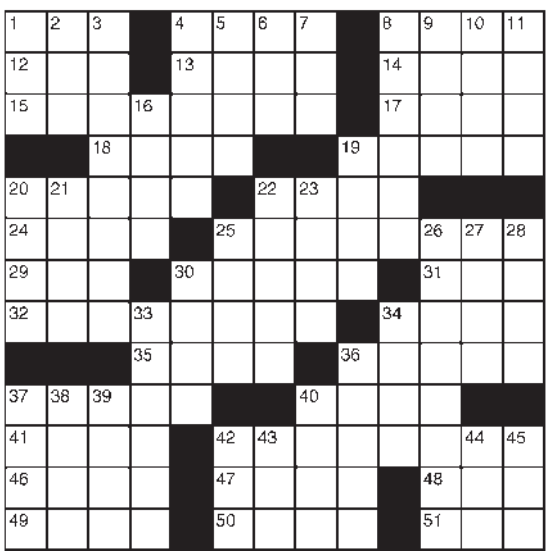
Yesterday's answer 6-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Donald Faison, 44; Carson Daly, 45; Cyndi Lauper, 65; Meryl Streep, 69.

Happy Birthday: Know your boundaries and your limitations. Don't chase an unrealistic dream or something someone else wants. Be true to yourself and follow through with the plans that will bring you the results you need to achieve personal happiness. Protect against loss or injury this year when involved in money matters or joint ventures that could present a physical challenge. Your numbers are 4, 17, 23, 26, 30, 36, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Plan to play a little. Socialize, get active and kick off a self-improvement project. You'll feel better if you keep busy and stick to people who pick you up rather than bring you down. A makeover or spa day should be scheduled. 3 stars

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Strengthen your qualifications, skills and knowledge. Keep up with changing technology and be open to learning and doing things differently. Adaptability will make your life easier as well as help you avoid discord with someone you love. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Appreciate what you have and show gratitude toward those who have stood by you through thick and thin. Recognize the givers from the takers, and adjust your plans to include the people you know you can trust. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Don't succumb to pressure someone applies in order to enforce change on you. Find a new way to use your skills and talents; you will find alternative ways to bring in extra cash. Express your thoughts and intentions explicitly. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Think about what's possible and what isn't before you start something new. Have a plan in mind and the money needed before you begin. Don't leave any room for error or unwanted and unexpected surprises. Act on principle, not emotions. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Make a clean break from anything or anyone causing you grief. Look for openings that offer compatible partnerships that can bring the sort of results and success you desire. An open mind will lead to new friendships and unique possibilities. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Have faith in what you are capable of doing and get moving in a direction that will bring about the sort of change you desire. Refuse to let someone's negativity deter you from reaching your goal. Don't count on help. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Emotions will surface, leaving you at odds regarding what to do about a matter that affects you. Take stock of what's required of you; make plans that will bring about the changes you want to see happen. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Easy does it. Be careful when dealing with people who tend to ask for too much. Someone will use emotional tactics to get you to agree to something that can jeopardize a chance for you to follow your dream. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You've got more power than you realize. If you want something, ask and take control of situations that have the potential to fail if not handled properly. Engage in discussions that are conducive to forming a positive partnership. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep your life simple, even if someone close to you is out of control. Don't give in to persuasive tactics being used to get you to stretch your budget or to be indulgent in something detrimental to your bankbook and your health. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Plan to have some fun. Engage in activities that will encourage mental stimulation and the potential to make a financial gain. A gift or reward will come from an unusual source. Changing your lifestyle or living quarters will be stabilizing. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, artistic and intuitive. You are intelligent and compassionate.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				4				
9				3				5
	8		7				9	
7			4		6	2		
	1						7	
		5	2		8			3
	3				9		6	
6				8				4
			1					

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

8	7	1	3	4	9	5	2	6
4	5	3	2	1	6	7	9	8
6	9	2	8	7	5	3	4	1
9	3	7	1	2	8	4	6	5
5	1	6	4	9	7	2	8	3
2	8	4	5	6	3	1	7	9
7	4	5	6	8	1	9	3	2
3	6	9	7	5	2	8	1	4
1	2	8	9	3	4	6	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

ITALIAN LAKES Solution: 8 letters

P	C	A	O	S	L	A	S	O	Z	Z	A	V	A	C
R	O	O	C	I	V	A	J	E	M	O	R	O	H	A
E	N	V	L	C	N	O	A	O	A	M	N	I	P	M
D	Z	R	I	I	E	L	R	N	G	R	U	R	I	P
I	A	A	A	H	L	O	S	E	D	G	S	P	L	A	E
L	U	G	A	N	O	N	A	V	I	I	E	Y	T	L
B	O	L	S	E	N	A	I	O	O	D	T	R	T	L
C	N	A	O	E	S	I	N	S	R	T	O	O	O	I
O	A	G	B	Ⓞ	G	E	R	O	E	T	P	N	L	M
D	I	O	Ⓜ	A	M	A	R	E	E	L	A	A	A	A
I	C	Ⓞ	R	I	C	O	R	A	U	B	T	R	T	L
B	Ⓒ	D	S	A	R	C	D	C	V	S	R	A	I	G
R	A	A	I	S	E	R	I	E	I	D	I	V	C	I
O	R	E	T	T	A	G	Y	O	O	A	A	D	E	N
T	B	O	T	I	H	C	C	O	T	A	U	Q	C	A

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Accesa, Acquato, Angitola, Arno, Arpy, Arvo, Baccio, Bolsena, Bracciano, Campelli, Cavazzo, Cecita, Chiusi, Coghinas, Como, Conza, Disueri, Garcia, Garda, Gattero, Idro, Iseo, Lago, Ledro, Lesino, Lugano, Maggiore, Malgina, Meja, Moro, Occhito, Olivo, Omodeo, Patria, Piatto, Predil, Resia, Salso, Torbido, Tovel, Trasimeno, Trote, Varano, Varese, Vico

Yesterday's Answer: Medical

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EMPLOYMENT

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DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS: High School graduate or equivalent. At least four (4) years' experience in bakery and production. Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to: Annie G. Hayes, General Manager, Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc., P.O. Box 500002, Tun Herman Pan Rd., Saipan, MP 96950, Tel: (670) 234-1726, Email: sales.saipan@hermansbakery.com. WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

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(4) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN
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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete; Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records; Supervise, train, assign, review and evaluate performance of one (1) A/R clerk and one (1) cashier; May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers; Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information; Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes; Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations; Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents; Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers; Code documents according to company procedures; Perform financial calculations, such as amounts due, interest charges, balances, discounts, equity, and principal; Reconcile or note and report discrepancies found in records; Perform general office duties, such as filing, answering telephones, and handling routine correspondence; Access computerized financial information to answer general questions as well as those related to specific accounts.

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- High School graduate or equivalent
- At least five (5) years experience in Bookkeeping, Accounting or Auditing Clerk

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General Manager
Bisnes Mami Saipan, Inc. dba NAPA Auto & Truck Parts
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 504640
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• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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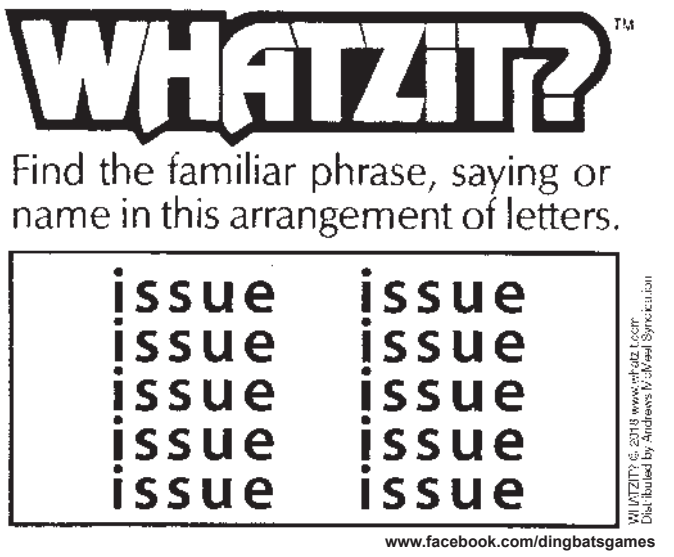
All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find today's solution in classified section

Stanton hits walk-off HR, Yanks rally past Mariners

NEW YORK (AP)—Expectations have been sky high for Giancarlo Stanton since he was acquired from Miami last offseason. In front of a sellout crowd Wednesday night at Yankee Stadium, the 6-foot-6 slugger had his first huge moment in pinstripes.

Stanton lined a two-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, and the New York Yankees erased a five-run deficit to beat the Seattle Mariners 7-5.

"That ball was absolutely scalded," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said.

Gary Sanchez tied the score with a two-run homer in the eighth, and the Yankees went on to complete their largest comeback victory of the year.

Coming off an MVP season in which he led the majors with 59 home runs and 132 RBI, Stanton has been inconsistent so far with New York, batting .255 with 18 homers.

The 28-year-old slugger has started to heat up lately, though, with four hits Monday night in Washington and a home run in Tuesday's series opener against Seattle.

Didi Gregorius singled with two outs in the ninth and Stanton hammered an 0-2 breaking ball from reliever Ryan Cook (1-1). Stanton knew it was gone the moment he connected, and he took a little jump at the plate and pumped his arm before tossing his bat aside.

"When you hit a line drive, that's a base hit to center for me," Boone said. "He's a different animal."

AP

New York Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius commits an error during the first inning of a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners at Yankee Stadium Tuesday, June 19, 2018, in New York.

Cubs 4, Dodgers 0

In Chicago, Jon Lester won his fifth straight start, Javier Baez backed him with three hits and two runs, and the Chicago Cubs beat the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Lester (9-2) gave up five hits over seven innings. Baez had two doubles, a triple and a steal. He also made some solid plays at shortstop and second base.

Kyle Schwarber hit his 14th homer, and Kris Bryant added two hits and an RBI. And the Cubs handed Ross Stripling his first loss since April 30, taking two of three in a rematch of the past two NL Championship Series.

Astros 5, Rays 1

In Houston, Jose Altuve homered twice, including the last of three straight by the Astros in the sixth inning, to lift Houston over Tampa Bay.

The game was tied in the bottom of the sixth when George Springer's 15th homer made it 2-1. Two pitches later Alex Bregman sent an 87 mph slider from Rays starter Nathan Eovaldi (1-3) into the seats in left field for his 11th home run.

But the Astros weren't done yet, as Altuve put one on the train tracks atop left field for the second time on Wednesday night to push the lead to 4-1.

Twins 4, Red Sox 1

In Minneapolis, Robbie Grossman and Max Kepler homered to back an effective start by Lance Lynn as Minnesota beat Boston.

Grossman led off the bottom of the first with a home run and Kepler added a two-run shot off David Price (8-5). Brian Dozier added a pair of doubles to help the Twins win for the fourth time in five games.

Phillies 4, Cardinals 3

In Philadelphia, Odubel Herrera hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the seventh inning, Cesar Hernandez had a two-run shot and Philadelphia beat St. Louis.

Herrera ripped a 91 mph slider from Sam Tuivailala (1-3) off the scoreboard on the facing of the second deck in right field to give the Phillies a 4-3 lead. Herrera has a homer in four straight games.

Indians 12, White Sox 0

In Cleveland, Corey Kluber became the first pitcher with 11 wins this season and Jose Ramirez and Jason Kipnis hit three-run homers in Cleveland's victory over Chicago.

Reigning AL Cy Young winner Kluber (11-3) allowed only a second-inning single past third base by Omar Narvaez and a third-inning walk to Charlie Tilson in seven dominant innings. The right-hander struck out seven and retired the last 14 batters before giving way to George Kontos to begin the eighth. Josh Tomlin surrendered a double to Jose Abreu in the ninth before completing the combined two-hitter.

Athletics 12, Padres 4

In San Diego, light-hitting Franklin Barreto connected for a 424-foot, three-run home run, one of five long balls Oakland hit in routing San Diego.

Josh Phegley, Mark Canha, Matt Olson and Jed Lowrie also went deep for Oakland.

The A's hit seven homers in sweeping the two-game series. Stephen Piscotty tied Tuesday night's game with a homer with two outs in the ninth off Brad Hand and Lowie hit a two-run shot with two outs in the 10th.

Reds 5, Tigers 3

In Cincinnati, Scooter Gennett hit a tying two-run homer, and Eugenio Suarez also connected on the next pitch—a hit originally ruled a double but changed to a homer on review—and Cincinnati swept the two-game sweep against Detroit.

Tyler Mahle (6-6) overcame a pair of solo homers to remain unbeaten in four June starts. The rookie has allowed four earned runs while going 3-0 in the month. He struck out eight in six innings.

Blue Jays 5, Braves 4

In Toronto, J.A. Happ pitched a season-high 8 1/3 innings to win his fifth straight decision, Kendrys Morales hit a two-run home run and Toronto beat Atlanta for its seventh win in eight home games.

Happ (9-3) allowed four runs and six hits, walked none and struck out eight. He's 4-0 with a 2.72 ERA in nine career starts against the Braves.

Giants 6, Marlins 5

In San Francisco, Brandon Belt had three hits, Gorkys Hernandez added a two-run single during a five-run sixth inning and San Francisco beat Miami.

Derek Holland (5-7) had seven strikeouts and allowed three runs over six innings in his first start against the Marlins since 2011. Hunter Pence had a pair of RBI singles to snap a 1-for-18 slump.

Rangers 3, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Austin Bibens-Dirkx pitched effectively into the seventh inning, Rougned Odor homered and Texas extended its winning streak to a season-high five games with a victory over struggling Kansas City.

Bibens-Dirkx (1-1) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings for his first victory since last Sept. 6 in a relief appearance at Atlanta -- and sent the Royals to their ninth straight loss.

Rockies 10, Mets 8

In Denver, Nolan Arenado and Charlie Blackmon homered, pinch-hitter Ryan McMahon put Colorado ahead with a three-run shot and the Rockies rallied past New York.

Colorado trailed 8-6 when McMahon connected off reliever Robert Gsellman (5-2) in the fifth inning. Blackmon made it 10-8 with his 14th home run leading off the sixth.

Orioles 3, Nationals 0

In Washington, Mark Trumbo homered, Andrew Cashner and four relievers combined on a five-hitter and Baltimore shook off a long rain delay to beat Washington.

The Orioles led 2-0 after four innings when play was stopped. After a wait of 2 hours, 43 minutes, the game resumed with a few hundred fans from the announced crowd of 32,153 sprinkled around the lower seating bowl.

Murray uncertain about Wimbledon after comeback defeat

LONDON—Andy Murray was back at one of his favorite stomping grounds on Tuesday and while the resumption of his career ended in defeat by Nick Kyrgios, the Scot remained upbeat about his return from injury, if guarded about his Wimbledon participation.

The 31-year-old three-times Grand Slam champion had not played a competitive match since losing to Sam Querrey in last year's Wimbledon quarter-finals and opted to have right hip surgery five months ago.

His ranking has slipped to 156 but there were times during a compelling two hour 39 minute clash with Kyrgios in the first round of the Queen's Club championships when it looked as though he had never been away.

Ultimately, however, he could not last the pace and Kyrgios buckled down after a torrid first set to win, 2-6, 7-6(4), 7-5.

He was clearly fatigued at the end and there was even the suggestion of a limp but Murray said that was only to be expected after such a long layoff.

"I'm a bit stiff just now. Just normal stuff that you would get after maybe playing on a grasscourt for the first time in a while," Murray told reporters.

"The longest I have practiced in the last year has been an hour and a half. I was on the court for significantly longer than that in a more intense environment. So, you know, I'm feeling decent, considering that."

Questions quickly turned to Wimbledon which starts in less than two weeks. Murray would not say how he will prepare, or whether he would even take part.

Going straight into best-of-five set tennis with such little playing time would be difficult and Murray hinted he play at next week's Eastbourne event. Then again, he also raised the prospect of opting to miss Wimbledon altogether, depending on how his body reacts in the next few days.

"I won't rule anything out just now. I won't rule out playing Eastbourne and not playing Wimbledon," Murray, given a standing ovation when he arrived on court, said.

"I wouldn't rule out not playing a tournament next week and trying to get matches like in an exhibition tournament, as well, to get ready for Wimbledon.

"I'm not sure yet. I'm really happy that I got on the match court today and played. It was a close decision. I have not been practicing loads at all."

Hornets to trade Howard to Nets for Mozgov

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—The Charlotte Hornets have agreed to trade eight-time All-Star center Dwight Howard to the Brooklyn Nets for center Timofey Mozgov and two second-round draft picks, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The Hornets will get the Nets' second-round pick Thursday night (45th overall) and a second-round pick in 2021, the person said. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the teams have not announced the trade and the league cannot approve the deal until the trade moratorium ends on July 6.

The 32-year-old Howard played only one season for Charlotte, averaging 16.6 points and 12.5 rebounds per game. He is due to make $23.8 million this season, the final year of his contract.

Brooklyn will be Howard's fourth team in as many seasons. He had pushed for a trade from Orlando to the Nets during the 2011-12 season in hopes of joining Deron Williams, then changed his mind and recommitted the Magic, who instead dealt him to the Lakers that summer.

After later spending three seasons with the Houston Rockets, Howard was acquired by his hometown Atlanta Hawks in 2016 as a free agent and signed a three-year contract. But he wore out his welcome after one season and was dealt to Charlotte. The Hornets, in the midst of a major organizational shake-up, having already replaced their general manager and coach, could be on the verge of shaking up their roster, too.

AP

Eight-time All-Star center Dwight Howard, left, is going to the Brooklyn Nets for center Timofey Mozgov and two second-round draft picks.

Howard struggled to mesh with guard Nicolas Batum, and the Hornets failed to make the playoffs despite what former coach Steve Clifford considered the team's most talented roster in half a decade.

This is a reunion of sorts for Mozgov. Recently hired Hornets general manager Mitch Kupchak signed Mozgov to a four-year, $64 million deal in 2016 when both were with the Los Angeles Lakers.

While the move allows the Hornets to unload Howard's contract and save about $7 million under this year's salary cap, it is a bit of a gamble because Mozgov has two years remaining on his current deal at $16 million per year.

Mozgov's numbers pale in comparison to Howard's.

Cavaliers want to keep Love

Regardless of where LeBron James ends up next season, the Cleveland Cavaliers are apparently still all in on Kevin Love.

The Cavaliers are "not actively shopping" the 6-foot-10 forward ahead of Thursday's NBA draft, according to ESPN's Dave McMenamin, and are hoping to keep him next season.

The Cavaliers have shopped Love in the past—he was offered to the Indiana Pacers for Paul George last offseason. The 29-year-old, who has been in Cleveland for four seasons, has two years and $49.7 million left on his contract.

Love averaged 17.6 points and 9.3 rebounds for Cleveland this season, and averaged nearly 15 points per game throughout the postseason in their fourth straight NBA Finals run, too.

The Cavaliers currently hold the eighth pick in Thursday's draft. James has yet to inform the team about his decision this offseason, and will not do so before the draft as he is currently on vacation with his family.

Eyes on Sacramento at No. 2 in NBA draft

NEW YORK (AP)—Marvin Bagley III and Michael Porter Jr. believe they are the best players in this NBA draft, though the best they can hope for is probably the No. 2 pick.

The Sacramento Kings own it, and that's where the intrigue appears to begin Thursday.

Arizona center Deandre Ayton is expected to be taken by the Phoenix Suns to open the draft, and then Bagley, Porter, Slovenian guard Luka Doncic or Michigan State's Jaren Jackson Jr. could be considered by Sacramento.

The Kings have been one of the league's lowliest franchises, not making the playoffs since 2006. But Bagley and Porter both said they would be open to playing in Sacramento, and getting picked so early would be an accomplishment for Porter after a back injury sidelined him for nearly all of his only season at Missouri.

Bagley thrived in his one season at Duke and doesn't expect that to change once he's a pro.

"I want to be the greatest player to ever play the game of basketball, and I mean that in the most humble way possible," he said. "Not to sound cocky or come off as arrogant, but that's just the mindset that I have. I always say, if you don't want to get to that level or be the best, then there's really no need to play."

Doncic only arrived in the U.S. on Wednesday after helping Real Madrid win the ACB league championship a day earlier. If the Kings don't select him, he could end up in Atlanta, Memphis or Dallas, who round out the top-five spots.

Other things to know before Thursday's draft at Brooklyn's Barclays Center:

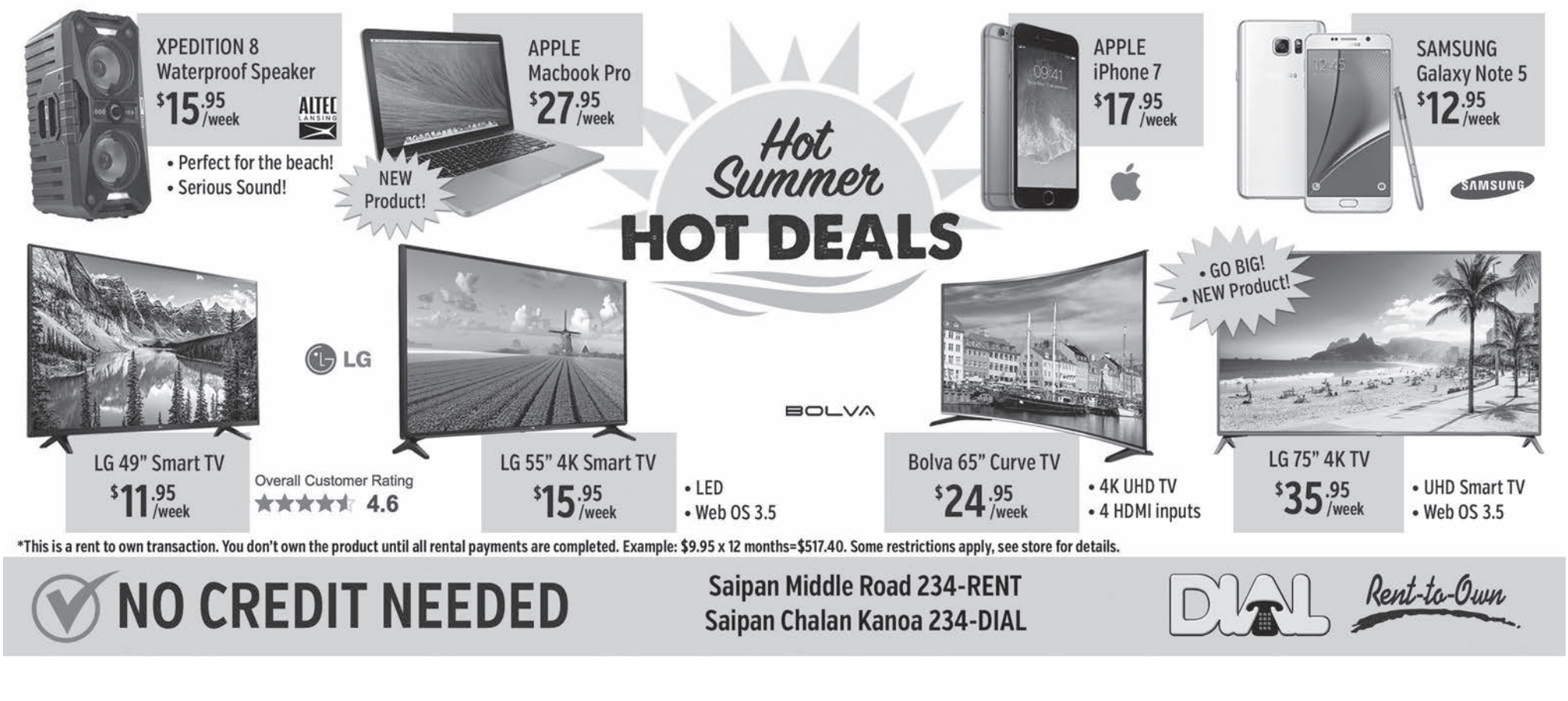
Ayton could join 1978 top pick Mychal Thompson—father of Golden State star Klay Thompson—as the only players from the Bahamas to go No. 1.

"It's just a huge opportunity to show the world that we're coming. Bahamian people are coming," Ayton said. "We're not just only a country of track and field athletes. We can also play basketball."

If it happens and Doncic follows, it would be the first time the NBA draft started with two international-born players.

Power programs such as Duke (Bagley and Wendell Carter Jr.), Michigan State (Jackson and Miles Bridges), national champion Villanova (Mikal Bridges and Donte DiVincenzo) and Kentucky (Kevin Knox and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander) could have multiple players taken in the top 10-15 selections of the two-round draft.

Jackson was on the rise in some mock drafts this spring, though he never noticed. He said he would look at them sometimes when he was a younger fan, but hasn't had any interest now that his name is in them.



Chowtime vs Saipan Vegas in Civic Center caging finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Chowtime's Jess Pineda, third left, dribbles to their front-court during an earlier game against Hong Ye in the Civic Center caging.

Chowtime advanced to the title game in the 2018 Civic Center Inter-color Basketball League after beating Islanders, 69-65, last Sunday at the Civic Center court.

Chowtime took control of majority of their semis game and then withstood Islander's fourth-quarter rally to clinch the second finals ticket in the 18-team field. Saipan Vegas notched the other finals berth after downing I-Secure in their semis duel last weekend, 69-59.

Mark Monteverde dropped 9 of his total points in the fourth canto with his baskets keeping Chowtime in front and foiling Islander's repeated comeback bids. Jawn Joyner and Jomac Manzano also contributed to Chowtime's cause in the final canto, combining for 9 points, while Mark Asuhan, Tan Broncano and Jess Pineda made one field goal apiece to offset the 31-point explosion of Islander.

Islander had to rally in the fourth frame, as it faced a 34-47 deficit at the end of the third canto. Chowtime, which led by 10 at the break, 35-25, made it a baker's dozen advantage after three periods as it allowed only two Islanders players to score in the penultimate quarter.

Getz Jandoc registered 7 points for Islander, while Sean Rabasto drilled the other field goal for the losing squad. In contrast, five players hit the board for Chowtime in the third canto with Manzano leading the way for his squad after recording 6 points and making up for a scoreless first half.

Down, but definitely out, Jandoc, Rabasto, Jack Aranda, and Paulo Rafols tried to bring Islander back into the game in the final period. However, they fell short, as Demonteverde hit timely baskets for Chowtime to tow his squad to the finals.

The Chowtime-Saipan Vegas title duel is originally set for this Sunday, but will be rescheduled on a later date as the Civic Center court is undergoing repairs.

Chowtime 69 — Demonteverde 15, Joyner 11, Broncano 11, Manzano 11, Pineda 9, Rivera 6, Danipog 4, Asuhan 4, Ariab 2, Tolosa 2.

Islander 65— Jandoc 17, Rafols 15, Rabasto 10, Aranda 9, De Guzman 8, Ibag 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-14, 35-35, 47-34, 69-65.

3-PEAT

From Page 32

ation and International Tennis Federation have yet to inform Race about the CNMI players who will travel to Fiji. However, Race said 10 to 13 players that appeared in the tournament in Guam may earn slots on the North Pacific Team and they will join the other Commonwealth players (5) who were given wild card entries in Fiji following their outstanding performance in last year's event.

NMI

From Page 32

coach Marz Akapito.

"As we take basketball prep to the last days in Chuuk before leaving for Yap, host State of the 2018 Micronesian Games, we are facing an issue that has been put on us by the Micro Games Council and those in charge of coordinating the competition. Years before, as in 2006, 2010, and 2014, players did not have to worry about this issue that we are facing in 2018," stated in Akapito's post.

"Even worse, players with FSM passports but were born in the US, who did not get their passport by age 16 can not play in the Micro Games per FIBA rules. Again, years before, this rule did not govern our Micronesian Games. It's like the MGC has allowed FIBA to turn the Micronesian Games against Micronesian. I mean, there are many players who are born and raised in US, probably also have not seen 'home' but they still consider themselves Chuukese or Micronesians. Deep within, they have the pride for and the longing to represent their home at the Micronesian Games," he added.

Akapito's post was flooded with comments and all of them questioned the Micronesian Games Council decision.

"I hope we have enough Micronesians lining up to urge the Council to reverse the decision and go back to previous procedures where all Micronesians have the freedom to play for home, if chosen, regardless of what passport they hold. This way, the many hundreds already disenfranchised by the current decision can secure the privilege to represent 'home' no matter what part of the globe they were born," the former administrative supervisor at FSM public information office said.

Saipan Tribune sent a message to Akapito, asking for more comments about the issue, but he has yet to respond at press time. *Saipan Tribune* has also reached out to Micronesian Games Council, through president Bill Keldermans, but has yet to get answers from the group.

Meanwhile, pending the final decision on the eligibility rules, MIBF has added Kelvin Fitial and Thomas Kautz to the men's team's depleted roster. The squad is down to nine players with the withdrawal of Jack Lizama and Dan Barcinas, and Douglas Schmidt and N-Nes Siech, who are the two players affected by the new eligibility rules.

Rangamar, in an email to Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White, has requested that Kautz and Fitial be added on the accreditation list for Team Marianas. However, White said that can't be done, as the accreditation deadline (June 15) as already past. Still, Rangamar is hopeful that the accreditation and organizing committees may reconsider their appeal, especially after the new eligibility rules were only announced less than two months before the Micro Games kicks off and after the CNMI has already selected members of its teams.

RONALDO

From Page 32

Belhanda was twice denied by goalkeeper Rui Patricio's diving saves, and defender Mehdi Benatia scooped a shot over the bar.

In stoppage time, Benatia lifted another shot too high with an even clearer chance.

"Those who know how to be in the penalty box and know how to make plays are the ones who make all the difference," Morocco coach Herve Renard said.

Benatia, a rugged defender who plays for Juventus, led the effort to stop Ronaldo. His hard tackles from behind, however, earned him a yellow card.

There was a separate clash in the penalty area between Morocco winger Noureddine Amrabat and Portugal left back Raphael Guerreiro. Guerreiro raised his shirt to show the referee a set of scratches across the right side of his stomach, and Renard was lectured by American referee Mark Geiger for demanding a video review of the incident.

Spain 1, Iran 0

Patience is a virtue, and Spain showed plenty of it to overcome a tough challenge from Iran at the World Cup.

During a frustrating evening at the Kazan Arena when the 2010 champions struggled to break through the stubborn Iranian defense, Diego Costa scored on a deflection for a win.

Costa scored in the 54th minute after being set up by Andres Iniesta. The powerful striker turned in the area and took a shot that deflected off Ramin Rezeian before bouncing back onto Costa's knee and into the net.

It was far from a beautiful win, but the goal was enough to make Spain coach Fernando Hierro smile.

"We have four points," Hierro said. "We were happier after the match against Portugal, but we only had one point."

Spain and Portugal lead Group B with four points each following their 3-3 draw and 1-0 victories. Iran has three points, but Morocco has been eliminated.

Costa, who scored twice against Portugal, has three goals at this year's World Cup, trailing Cristiano Ronaldo by one. He also has nine goals in his last nine starts for Spain.

He only had one chance against Iran, and he converted it.

"It's going be tight (with Ronaldo)," Hierro said. "I know Diego is really committed, he has scored three goals in three matches. He can do better, he works hard, he is fighting both at the back and at the front."

Facing a very compact Iranian team that came out to defend, Spain pressed high and controlled much of the game but found it difficult to threaten against Iran's 10-man defense.

Spurred on by their vociferous fans, Iran's imposing players did well to handle Spain's attacks. Iran was also dangerous on the break, using the speed of its attacking players to threaten the Spanish back four but without creating many real chances.

Spain was mostly dangerous from set-pieces, including in the 25th minute when a free kick from David Silva that took a deflection was stopped by Iran goalkeeper Ali Beiranvand.

Spain continued to apply strong pressure in the second half and Beiranvand stopped a strike from Sergio Busquets in the 49th minute with a superb one-handed diving save. He then palmed the rebound away before Lucas Vazquez could get to the ball.

Hierro's players were almost caught against the run of the play when Karim Ansarifard unleashed a powerful strike that ended up in the side-netting following a long thrown in.

Then, trailing in the second half, Iran nearly equalized when Saeid Ezatolahi had a goal ruled out on video review.

Iran continued to push hard and managed to challenge with some fast counterattacks. Spain was lucky not to concede toward the end as Mehdi Taremi connected with a cross from Ansarifard, but his header from close range went over the crossbar.

Uruguay 1, Saudi 0

With a single goal, Luis Suarez settled the fate of four teams in the group stage of the World Cup.

The controversial striker, who was making his 100th appearance in his national team's light blue, scored Wednesday to give Uruguay a victory over Saudi Arabia and a spot in the round of 16.

The result, though, had a domino effect in Group A. It also put host Russia into the next round while eliminating both Saudi Arabia and Egypt at the same time.

Suarez, who was kicked out of the last World Cup for biting an opponent during a match, knocked in a corner kick from Carlos Sanchez in the 23rd minute for his 52nd goal for his country in that century of matches.

"We are more than proud because we've reached the knockout stage at three successive World Cups. It's a beautiful moment and we want to enjoy it," Suarez said. "We still haven't hit our stride so we need to tweak some things."

Uruguay and Russia both have six points from their opening two matches, putting them into the round of 16 with a match to go. They will face each other on Monday in Samara with first place in Group A on the line.

Besides scoring, Suarez led his team with a hard-working performance. He fell back to defend and raced forward alongside Edinson Cavani on the counterattack.

"I don't want to hand out empty praise but Suarez is a crucial player for us. And he has that enormous capacity to score goals," Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez said. "He lives under enormous pressure, but he lives with it. He takes that pressure on."

The 71-year-old Tabarez is the oldest coach at the tournament and also led Uruguay to the World Cup semifinals in 2010.

"We do want to score more but there are other positives: no yellow cards, no injuries," Tabarez said. "We'll see who we get now (in the next round). You don't see 10-0 games at the World Cup anymore. All the teams out there are good we respect all of them. That is a cardinal rule for us.

Messi 'shouldn't shoulder all the responsibility'

NIZHNY NOVGOROD, Russia (AP)—Lionel Messi, it seems, can do only so much.

Ahead of Thursday's critical World Cup match against Croatia on the banks of the Volga River, Argentina coach Jorge Sampaoli tried to temper the expectations weighing on his star player.

"Leo shouldn't shoulder all the responsibility," Sampaoli said Wednesday. "He's the best player in the world, but clearly it's impossible that a single player completely changes the situation of a match.

"He's always there to give you an extra element, but he can't be held responsible for the defeat."

Messi missed a penalty in Argentina's 1-1 draw against Iceland in the opening group match. That slip has piled the pressure on Argentina to win the second game against Croatia, which defeated Nigeria 2-0 in its opener.

AP

Argentina's Lionel Messi, centre, is surrounded by Iceland's Alfred Finnbogason, and Iceland's Birkir Bjarnason, right, during the group D match between Argentina and Iceland at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Spartak Stadium in Moscow, Russia, Saturday, June 16, 2018.

Messi turns 31 on Sunday, so this may be his last World Cup. Or at least the last in which he is widely viewed as the game's top player.

"When you score with the Argentina jersey, we all take credit for it," Sampaoli said. "But when Argentina loses, it's all Leo's fault. I think that's quite unfair treatment. It's a lot of pressure for a single player to stand. I have to say I feel responsible for that missed penalty."

Ivan Rakitic, Messi's teammate at Barcelona and part of Croatia's powerful midfield with Luka Modric, has no illusions about the Argentine's ability on the field.

"I will just repeat once again," Rakitic said. "For me, Lionel Messi is the best player of all time. And I hope he will continue playing for as long as he wants and for as long as his health allows him to."

Sampaoli called the draw against Iceland "a blow" and said his players were frustrated but added that the team had recovered.

Beyond Messi, this is yet another chance for Argentina to win a major trophy.

The Argentines have won the World Cup twice, but not since 1986. In Brazil four years ago, Argentina lost to Germany in the final. The country's last major title was the Copa America in 1993. More recently, the Argentines lost in the last two Copa America finals, in 2015 and 2016.

Argentina will be a strong favorite against Nigeria in its final group match, but first comes Croatia. The top two teams in each group advance to the round of 16.

"Sometimes football does give us these unpleasant surprises," Sampaoli said. "We realize our window of opportunity is getting smaller by the hour."

Neymar returns, Brazil guarantees he's ready

Brazil is making sure everyone knows Neymar is perfectly fit at the World Cup

A day after he limped out of training and raised further doubts about his physical condition in Russia, the Brazilian soccer federation was quick to tell the world the team's biggest star was just fine.

Brazil had a closed practice session Wednesday, two days before its game against Costa Rica in St. Petersburg, but the federation posted photos and a video of Neymar in action in training with the rest of the squad.

FIFA WORLD CUP RUSSIA 2018

Rangamar to represent CNMI in basketball youth seminar

The CNMI's Lia Rangamar will be participating in the IBF Youth Leadership Seminar that will be held in Singapore this weekend.

The June 22-25 seminar is organized by FIBA's Foundation, the International Basketball Foundation. Fourteen other representatives from South East Asia and the Pacific region will join the event.

The seminar's participants will undergo an intensive leadership training, with the goal of delivering a FIBA-sanctioned U18 mixed national 3x3 tournament in their respective countries.

Each individual will be educated on the intricacies of presiding over a FIBA-sanctioned 3X3 tourney. FIBA will fully support and fund the U18 3x3 mixed tournament in preparation for the Youth Leaders Basketball Cup.

The national tournaments will be the official qualifiers for the Youth Leaders Basketball Cup set from Sept. 7 to 10 this year in Bali, Indonesia, and the winning teams will represent their country in the final tournament.

The seminar will be supervised by Mthoko Madonda, the former captain of the South African Basketball national team and founder of Reach Sports Management. Madonda supervised the IBF 3x3 Young Lions Cup in Antilles last year.

"We are excited to be working with IBF on the Youth Leadership Cup again. We are looking forward to meeting 15 amazing youth leaders from South East Asia and the Pacific and providing them with leadership and basketball for good training," said Mthoko.

Joining Rangamar in the seminar are Indonesia's, Laurentius Oei, Singapore's Wan Qing Chin, Brunei's Ruby Ang, Malaysia's Zhong Shin Thea, Cambodia's Sunleang Dy, Myanmar's Min Zin Thun, Thailand's Pornutcha Sawatong, Vietnam's Lam Quach Trung, Papua New Guinea's Anderson Hewe, the Philippines' Amanda Alejandrino, Guam's Kali Benavent, Laos' Vontavanh Kompadith, Timor Leste's Virinia Da Cruz, and Fiji's Tiyana Kainamoli. ***(PR)***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Lia Rangamar, seen here picking up a loose ball down the baseline during the GSM Lady Ol'Aces and CTSI's title game in the TanHoldings caging early this year at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, will represent the CNMI in a basketball seminar in Singapore.

LBJ: Should I stay or should I go

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Reporter

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For the record, I am not a LeBron James fan, but I will try my very best not to be biased against NBA's Drama King (Oops, I can't help it).

Right after LeBron's Cleveland lost to Golden State in the NBA Finals, we are bombarded with stories on LBJ's next move. Will he stay with the Cavs or leave?

I would have him do the former.

Why?

LeBron, at this stage of his career, is trying to cement his legacy in NBA and the best way to do it is with the team he is very much identified with—the one that he towed to its first major sports title (for the city of Cleveland) since 1964.

Rumors have it LeBron prefers to go to Lakers. He should not. That's Kobe Bryant, Magic Johnson, and Kareem Abdul-Jabar's team (players I remember since I became a basketball junky). Even Shaquille O'Neal, who also donned the purple and gold, could not call Lakers "his team" the same manner Kobe does.

The Spurs and play alongside Kawhi Leonard (if he changes his mind and not push through with his trade demands)? Maybe? However, when you talk about the Spurs, you think of Tim Duncan, David Robinson, and even the ageless Manu Ginobili. LeBron speaks highly of Spurs coach Greg Popovich, but to actually play under the system of "Pop" would require the four-time MVP to be a changed man. Remember how he locked horns and had his ways with Tyrone Lue and Miami's Erik Spoelstra?

Return to the Heat? Not this time. Miami, though it won back-to-back titles with LeBron, is Dwyane Wade's team first.

Celtics? A big NO, that's my team.

Do a Kevin Durant? KD may have won two championships with the Warriors, but Golden State is Stephen Curry's team. So, the answer is no for the nth time.

LeBron has to stay put with the Cavaliers and do the recruitment himself, not the other way around. He has management on his side and can find the pieces he needs to get his fourth championship.

Let go of J.R. Smith, please. Look for a steady center or forward. Kevin Love is too soft, while Tristan Thompson is inconsistent both on offense and defense. Have a reliable point guard. LeBron, the best player in NBA and in the world right now (there I finally admitted it, Jon Perez), can play multiple positions and often times brought the ball down during their finals series against the Warriors, but the man is still human. He can't do it all and basketball is a game for five players (the Warriors reminded him that).

It's not good to see Cleveland again burning the No. 23 jersey of the player they adored. LeBron does not need a new team. He needs new teammates. Paging Leonard.

Stanton hits walk-off HR, Yanks rally past Mariners

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Hornets to trade Howard to Nets for Mozgov

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NMI basketball defiant

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Mariana Islands Basketball Federation is determined to contest the questionable eligibility rules approved for next month's Micronesian Games in Yap.

MIBF official and CNMI men's and women's national teams coach Elias Rangamar said their group will directly send a letter to the Micronesian Games Council to appeal the latter's decision to change the eligibility rules in basketball alone and may still take legal actions if push comes to shove.

The contested new rules, suggested by FIBA Oceania and okayed by the Micronesian Games Council, state that for a basketball player to compete in the Micro Games, he or she must be a citizen and passport holder of the country he or she is representing. In the CNMI's case, a player should be a U.S. citizen and must be born here or a U.S. citizen and at least has a grandparent born here. In the old eligibility rules, non-U.S. citizens were allowed to compete for the CNMI provided they meet the seven-year residency, while a three-year residency was implemented for Micronesian athletes living here.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Dean Blake will play for the CNMI Men's National Team that is hit by new eligibility rules in next month's Micronesian Games in Yap.

"We will fight for this until the end," said Rangamar in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* last night, adding that their protest could gain ground after he found out Chuuk and Kosrae were also hit by the controversial eligibility rules.

"We will coordinate with Chuuk and Kosrae and see what we can do to raise our concerns with the Council," the veteran coach added.

Rangamar found out Chuuk's same predicament through the Facebook post of

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3-peat tough for jr. tennis team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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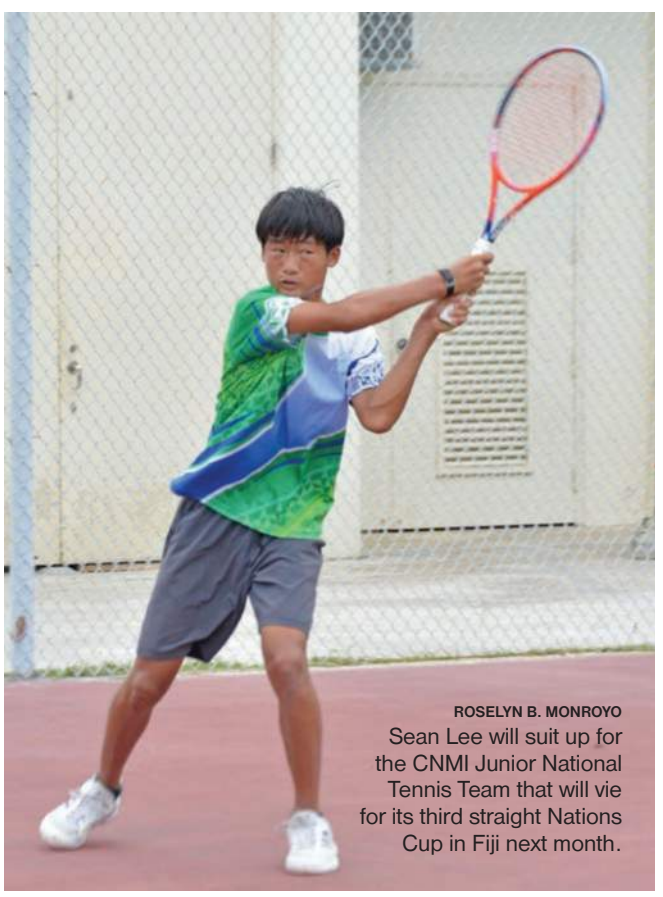
REPORTER



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Sean Lee will suit up for the CNMI Junior National Tennis Team that will vie for its third straight Nations Cup in Fiji next month.

CNMI Junior National Team players will walk around Fiji next month with a target on their back.

"They will be after us," coach Jeff Race said after the CNMI conquered the 2018 North Pacific Regional Championships in Guam last year and will banner the North Pacific Team in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji mid next month.

At the POJC, Race's wards will be gunning for a third consecutive Nations Cup, which is given to the nation that wins the most matches in the 19-country tournament.

"It will be very tough to get the Nations Cup for the third straight year because every one is targeting us, especially Tahiti, which we frustrated in the last two years," Race said.

Tahiti, according to Race, will bring in their players who are training in France for the Nations Cup.

Despite the big obstacle that his team will be facing next month, Race welcomed the challenge.

"It's good for us, it's good for everyone. We won the Nations Cup (twice) in a row so Tahiti, Vanuatu, and other teams are pushed to play and train harder to get the title from us," Race said.

"Now that we know that everyone is after us, our players are also pushing themselves hard in practice to get ready for the competition in Fiji and defend the Nations Cup. That's how the tennis tournament in the Pacific works, we push each other to get better and although only one team gets the crown, still everybody wins," Race said.

The Oceania Tennis Feder-

See 3-PEAT on Page 30

AP
Portugal's scorer Cristiano Ronaldo, left, and his teammates celebrate the opening goal during the group B match between Portugal and Morocco at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, Russia, Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Ronaldo makes history in win against Morocco

MOSCOW (AP)—Off the top of his head, Cristiano Ronaldo scored yet another goal, set a European record and eliminated Morocco from the World Cup.

The Portugal forward headed in a fourth-minute cross from the right to give Portugal a 1-0 victory on Wednesday. It was his 85th goal for his country, the most for any European player in almost 150 years of international soccer.

"It was beautiful for me," Ronaldo said after being voted the man of the match for the second straight game.

Ronaldo celebrated his goal by pointing at his chest during a trademark run and soaring leap toward the corner flag at the Luzhniki Stadium.

The goal moved the 33-year-old Ronaldo ahead of Ferenc Puskas, another Real Madrid great who scored his last goal for Hungary in 1956. He is alone in second place worldwide behind Ali Daei's 109 goals for Iran.

"He has a great coach," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said through a translator, laughing when asked about Ronaldo. "He's like a port wine. He knows how to refine his capacity and age at his best."

Ronaldo's four goals top the individual scoring chart at this year's World Cup. Buoyed by his hat trick in a 3-3 draw against Spain on Friday, including a spectacular free kick late in the game, Ronaldo scored against Morocco with his first meaningful touch of the match.

He was too strong for marker Manuel Da Costa and found space in the goalmouth to meet Joao Moutinho's cross following a short corner.

Ronaldo had two more free kick chances, each from less than 20 yards (meters). But both were blocked by a solid wall of defenders as the Portuguese ground out a result from an often poor display, much like it did two years ago on its run to the European Championship title.

There were 42 fouls in the match, and only two Portuguese shots on target. Most of the best play came from Morocco, but the North Africans now have no chance of advancing from the group stage after a second straight 1-0 loss.

Morocco had enough scoring chances, nearly all from set pieces, and three came in a five-minute spell early in the second half. Younes

See RONALDO on Page 30